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AND

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MARRIAGE.

On the 25th October, at St Philip's Stepney, ALFRED EDWARD WHEELLEY, of Shanghai, eldest son of Mrs. WHEELLEY, of Clive-avenue, Hastings, and the late A. A. WHEELLEY, of Lough on, Essex, to KATHERINE LOCKHART, second daughter of Wm. CROCKFORD, of Mile-end.

DEATH.

On the 18th October, at 8, Foremount Terrace, Glasgow, JOHN, elder son of John Dudgeon, M.D., Peking, aged 22 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAIL.

The American mail of the 29th October arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Doric*, on the 27th November (29 days); and the Canadian mail of the 10th November arrived, per C. P. R. steamer *Empress of Japan*, on the 2nd December (22 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Bari-heri has broken out amongst the prisoners in the Singapore gaol, and it has been decided to make the experiment of removing a number of the cases temporarily to St. John's Island.

A report was in circulation at Shanghai recently that Great Britain had occupied the Chusans. The report appears to have originated from the fact of the surveying vessel *Waterwitch* being engaged in the vicinity.

A special telegram to the *N. C. Daily News* dated Chungking, 21st March, states that Mr. Fleming was deliberately killed by the natives and soldiers at Tsingping ninety miles east of Kueiyang. Official connivance in the murder is clear.

Isai Chun, Taotai of Shanghai, has been ordered by Imperial decree to resign his post, and his successor has been appointed.

A vote of \$10,000 has been passed by the Legislative Council of the Straits Settlements for the relief of sufferers by the recent disastrous West Indies hurricane.

We (*N. C. Daily News*) learn with great regret that the enforcement of the new Land Regulations has been postponed for the present, owing, it is understood, to the Tsungli Yamen not having yet given them its approval.

The N.Y.K. liner *Inaba Maru*, now on her way out from Europe, has on board, from Havre, a complete torpedo-boat destroyer, in sections, to be landed at the Naval Dockyard at Kure (Japan.) The T.B.D. is to steam 34 knots, and will be put together by the Japs themselves.

At Singapore on the 20th November, on the invitation of Messrs. Syme & Co., the Agents of the Shell Transport and Trading Co., Limited (Messrs. M. Samuel & Co.) a party of gentlemen went out in the newest steamer of the Company, the *Halotis*, to witness the trial of liquid fuel.

Hall and Holtz' store at Shanghai was burnt out on the night of the 26th November. The damage is estimated at \$50,000, which is covered by insurance. In another fire which occurred simultaneously ten Chinese houses in Hankow Road and three European houses in Albany Gardens were destroyed.

Kang Yu-wei has issued an address to his countrymen, from Japan, in which he calls on all loyal subjects of the Emperor, and other nations who sympathise with the misfortunes of the Emperor and the country, to assist Kang and the other reformers in their efforts to save the Emperor from his imminent peril.

A Peking dispatch states that H.E. Li Hung-chang was expected to leave that city for Tientsin on the 28th November, en route to examine the Yellow River. It is also alleged that Li's Private Secretary, Mr. N. J. Pethick, formerly U.S. Vice-Consul at Tientsin, will engage two foreign engineers for the Commission to advise Li as to what ought to be done for the conservation of the erratic river, but, so far, the names of the foreign engineers have not been made public.—*N. C. Daily News*.

It is stated in the *Universal Gazette* that the Consuls-General for Great Britain and the United States at Shanghai have sent a joint telegram to the Viceroy Liu Kun-yih suggesting the desirability of retaining Tsai Taotai at Shanghai until the question of the Settlement Extension is satisfactorily settled. The Viceroy at once transmitted the communication to the Tsungli Yamen. The same paper further states that it is expected that the suggestion will obtain the assent of the Central Government.—*China Gazette*.

A Swatow letter dated the 18th November states that "forty miles from that port, in the hill-district of Haiyang, a gathering of malcontents is reported, the leaders of whom are a retired General and three returned Straits Chinese. Considerable quantities of arms and ammunition have also recently been landed on the coast, and it looks as if a determined rising were projected in the near future in that part of Kwangtung province. Details as to number of insurgents, organisation, etc., are, however, not obtainable at present."—*N. C. Daily News*.

The Hon. John Barrett, late United States Minister to Siam, was in Shanghai a few days ago on his way to Peking, where he goes to study the situation.

The Spanish cruiser *Isla de Cuba*, which was raised near Cavite Arsenal, was towed into Cana-boa bay on Thursday evening, 17th November, preparatory to going on the marine ways at Sangley Point. She is, the *American* says, practically a new ship of 1,048 tons, having been built in Spain and sent to this place shortly before the battle occurred. The injuries are comparatively small and when completed she will make a creditable addition to the American fleet in these waters.

The *Universal Gazette* states that "it is reported in Imperial Household Department circles at Peking that the Empress Dowager intends to celebrate the thirtieth birthday anniversary of His Majesty Kwang Hsu next year by a Special Act of Grace, to hold extraordinary examinations for literary degrees throughout the Empire." The object of the above, says the *N. C. Daily News*, is obviously to bring the whole body of the *literati* on the Empress Dowager's side, and if nothing indeed happens to his Majesty such a step is very likely.

The Tientsin correspondent of the *Echo de Chine*, writing on the 18th Nov., says that it is announced that the Empress Dowager was to receive on her birthday the wives of Foreign Ministers. He says: "What costume will their feminine Excellencies wear? Who will have the happiness of acting as interpreter between them and Her Majesty? Here are two grave questions for consideration. After this one will be able to say that the Empress Dowager is a reactionary sovereign. True, she shuts up the schools, but she is very strong on etiquette. And when are we to expect the first ball at the palace?"

A Hangchow dispatch to the *Universal Gazette* states that Governor Liao of Chekiang has received a notification from Director-General Sheng to the effect that the contracts for the railways between Soochow and Hangchow and Ningpo and Shaohsing have been given to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., and requesting that proper protection and assistance be granted the Company's Engineers, etc., in the prosecution of their work. The Chinese manager of the railways in Chekiang province has also been appointed by the Director-General in the person of Taotai Pan, a son of the late Governor of Kweichow.—*N. C. Daily News*.

It has been notified at Singapore that on and after Christmas Day, 1898, the rate of postage to be charged upon letters to the United Kingdom, Canada, the Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, Cyprus, the Falkland Islands, Fiji, Gibraltar, Gold Coast Colony, the Gambia, Hongkong, Lagos, the Leeward Islands (viz., Antigua, St. Christopher, Nevis, Dominica, Montserrat and the Virgin Islands), Natal, Newfoundland, the Seychelles, Sierra Leone, St. Helena, Tabago, Trinidad, Turks Islands, the Windward Islands (viz., Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent), and such other parts of the British Empire or elsewhere as may hereafter be notified, in the *Government Gazette*, by the Postmaster-General, shall be 5 cents for any weight not exceeding half an ounce, and 5 cents for each additional half-ounce. Five cents is presumably taken at the equivalent of a penny. What about Hongkong?

THE NEW GOVERNOR.

(Daily Press, 26th November).

Hongkong has always extended a warm welcome to its Governors. Eleven have come and gone, many carrying with them the hearty good will and esteem of the community, and most of them have left the colony better than they found it. Yesterday the colony welcomed the arrival of Sir HENRY A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G., to its shores with perhaps more enthusiasm than has usually been the case, the gathering at the landing place and the attendance at the Council Chamber being larger than that which has greeted previous Governors. Hongkong, as Sir GEORGE BOWEN found, and lamented, is not a demonstrative place; the residents are a very busy people, and, especially on the day preceding the departure of the mail, are too much glued to their offices and work to attend public functions, even when there is "pomp and circumstance" attaching thereto. Yet a goodly proportion of the mercantile slaves left the dry drudgery of the desk to meet and welcome Sir HENRY and Lady BLAKE. They landed under happy auspices: Queen's weather prevailed for Her Majesty's Representative, and Hongkong smiled its fairest on the new-comers. The installation ceremony was conducted with as much dignity as the unwonted crush in the small Council Chamber permitted, and the new Governor made a happy little speech which we trust will prove an augury of future good relations between His Excellency and the colonists. Sir HENRY BLAKE comes to Hongkong with an established reputation as an administrator, and he arrives at a moment when such qualities as we believe he possesses—strength, tact, and judgment—are required in the head of the Government. The Colony has just been considerably enlarged by the inclusion in its boundaries of some two hundred square miles of adjacent territory. The proper administration and development of certain very awkward conditions with which the cession was originally clogged afford opportunity for the exercise of no little ability. The promotion of the industrial growth of the Colony is another matter which can also be assisted or retarded by the head of the Executive. With him, too, lies the ultimate decision as to the measure, to be adopted to secure the effective sanitation of the city of Victoria and the final extinction of that unhappily recurrent evil the plague in an epidemic form. At the same time, we cannot refrain from the expression of a hope that the residents—who are very chary of doing anything for themselves—will not expect too much all at once. There are many flaws in the system under which we are governed and it is extremely unlikely that these will all be expunged by any Governor; what we have to hope is that the reign of Sir HENRY BLAKE will be characterised by fearless disregard of individual interests and a steady striving for the common good.

We (Singapore Free Press) have it on authority, from New York through a private source, that the following American war and supply vessels sailed from New York on 12th October for Manila, via Cape Horn:—The battle-ship Oregon, 10,288 tons, 11,110 horse-power, 16.7 knots speed, 516 crew; the battle-ship Iowa, 11,410 tons, 12,105 horse-power, 16 knots speed, 505 crew; and the transports and supply ships Celtic, Iris, Scindia, Abarenda, and Sterling, the latter an iron screw steamer, length 274 feet, beam 37 feet, and depth 23.2 feet, owned by the U. S. Government.

LORD CHARLES BERNESFORD'S SHANGHAI SPEECH.

(Daily Press, 28th November.)

We have read Lord CHARLES BERNESFORD's speech at Singapore, we have read his Lordship's speech at Shanghai, and, like the farmer with his claret, we do not seem to get any "forarder." The distinguished speaker says some clear, definite policy should be laid down as to what position we hold in China, but he does not assist us very much to an understanding of what that line of policy should be. He speaks in one place of "the absolutely effete condition of the Government of this country with regard to the four hundred million inhabitants which they can in no way control, while at any moment, if you put up stores or trade centres in the country they may be destroyed or burnt, and the Government of this country will have no control over those who do it." Lord CHARLES must have fallen a victim to the sophistry of the native officials, for the difficulty of controlling the population is invariably the plea they put forward, to throw dust in the eyes of foreign Governments, when officially instigated outrages such as the Tientsin or Kucheng massacres take place. The Chinese Government can control the population well enough if it chooses, but when foreign interests are concerned it is well content to let the elements of disorder break loose occasionally, even though it sometimes burns its own fingers thereby. Lord CHARLES, however, giving the Chinese Government the character he does, would yet preserve "the integrity of China as it is." China as it is, ruled by the Empress-Dowager and LI HUNG-CHANG! It is true his Lordship would have "an adequate army for police purposes,"—for which no army is required, however necessary it may be to preserve the country from aggression on the part of other Powers—but he hardly makes any mention of the necessity of reforming the civil administration which is the crying need of the country. If a strong line of policy is what we want let us send a Lord CROMER to Peking as adviser to the Chinese Government, and enforce compliance with his advice. Then we should see a thorough reformation, which would be more to the purpose than trying to preserve "the integrity of China as it is." As to the suggested alliance between Great Britain, the United States, Germany, and Japan, it would be highly satisfactory to see the four countries pursuing a common policy, but our experience of the concert of Europe in connection with the Armenian question and, later, in the affairs of Crete, leads us to the supposition that on the whole Britain is likely to do the best for herself and others when she stands on her own legs. Egypt would not stand in the satisfactory position she does to-day if her affairs had been subject to the control of an alliance of Powers instead of that of Britain alone.

There are some minor points in his Lordship's speech that excite astonishment and dissent. He says, for instance, "The Press and individuals have made use of more or less strong language in favour of the 'open door'; we have sent our fleets roving about in muddy waters for the sake of the 'open door,' but the extraordinary thing is that that door has been shut—absolutely shut. The idea that the door is kept open because there are no hostile tariffs or preferential rates is absolutely incorrect." That rather reminds one of the childish riddle, "When is a door not a door?" We think British

trade would be pretty well satisfied if it nowhere encountered hostile tariffs or preferential rates, and would consider such a state of things a very good representative of the open door. But the absolute shutting of the door is apparently a reference to the railway question, for his Lordship goes on to say "The door can be firmly closed by the interference of one country with the commercial enterprises of another. You can see what occurred in connection with the Newchwang railways." Well, as to that, there never will be any open door for railways in China, so long as the Chinese Government continues what it is, because contracts will not be let on ordinary commercial principles but under diplomatic pressure or the influence of palm oil as the case may be. If Britain wants to make any particular line she has simply to make her diplomatic pressure stronger than that of other competing powers. Another remarkable point in the speech is that referring to the Yangtze Valley. That Britain's sphere of influence there is illusory, so far as the paper agreement is concerned, most people are now agreed, but Lord CHARLES BERNESFORD goes further than that. He quotes Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD's despatch, "The British Minister would be glad to be in a position to communicate to Her Majesty's Government a definite assurance that China would never alienate any territory in the provinces adjoining the Yangtze to any other Power," and says "To any other Power" would naturally lead one to suppose that meant to any other Power but Great Britain, and that we were the Power to have such sphere of influence, but when he questioned Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD he found that it was nothing of the sort and that we are included in the other Powers. Perhaps his Lordship has misunderstood Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD, but however that may be we feel assured that if he were to ask Sir JOHN CARRINGTON or Mr. Justice WISE or any other competent lawyer to interpret the document he would find that it constituted no bar to the transfer of the territory in question from China to Britain should the two Powers hereafter decide upon such a transfer. Another point that calls for attention is the desire expressed by His Lordship that railway material entering China should pay Customs duty. At Newchwang, it appears, no duty is collected. Whether any was collected on the material for the Woosung Railway we are not aware, but we rather think not. Certainly the same rule should be applied in all cases, but as the railways are all to be in effect state lines we think it might be reasonable to exempt the material from duty. We do not think our local railway projectors would object if that were the rule adopted.

With respect to Russia, Lord CHARLES says the policy she is pursuing is precisely that which he would favour if he were a Russian statesman. Being an English statesman the question is how far he thinks we should go in opposing Russia, and on that point his opinion seems rather nebulous. For our own part, we think that, given immunity from hostile tariffs and preferential rates, British trade will prosper much more in Manchuria under Russian rule than under Chinese rule, and that would seem to have been also the opinion of the Newchwang community, for Lord CHARLES experienced some difficulty in inducing them to pass a strong anti-Russian resolution. The province is already feeling the vivifying influence of the opening up it is being subjected to, and our trade there "is increasing in a larger degree than any other place

"out here"—we quote Lord CHARLES BERTSFORD's own words—and the merchants would presumably not like to see any backward policy adopted. Of course there is the danger that Russia might in the future try to establish hostile tariffs and preferential rates, but so, for that matter, might China, as in fact she does, close to our own doors, by giving preferential rates to junk-borne as against steamer-borne traffic. In the one case as in the other it is for Britain to see that treaty engagements are honestly fulfilled and any attempted breach promptly suppressed. On the whole Lord CHARLES's speech must be pronounced unsatisfying. The problem he dealt with is a very complex and difficult one, but one thing we think stands out clearly, and that is that in not insisting upon the necessity of foreign assistance in effecting a wholesale reform of the Government of China he missed the most essential condition of a correct solution. His Lordship appears to concentrate his attention almost exclusively on the army. "My view of the future" he says, "is that we should induce the Chinese Government to allow British officers to reorganise their army. I believe if their army were properly organised it would be an ample security for the prosperity of the country and a benefit to all nations." To us it appears that to place a properly organised army at the disposal of the present Peking Government would be almost equivalent to placing firearms in the hands of a lunatic.

RUSSIA AND BRITISH INTERESTS IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 30th November.)

A correspondent whose letter appears in another column, after emphasising the suggestion that if Russia takes over Manchuria trade will quadruple, goes on to say that "it is impossible to account for the agitation set up for an attempt to oust Russia in that direction in any other way than to suppose that a few interested individuals, who have their own hatchets to grind, are working on the ignorance of the masses by raising this 'Russian bogey.'" But there is another way of accounting for the agitation. What appears to us to be probably the correct explanation has been suggested by the *N. C. Daily News*, the chief apostle of the Jingo cult in the Far East; it is "the racial craving for supremacy and pride of place." This explanation is given in an article headed "Militant Imperialism," written in review of a paper in the *Contemporary* by Mr. J. A. HOBSON on "Free Trade and Foreign Policy." Writing from the standpoint of a Free Trader of the old school, by a series of what our Shanghai contemporary considers to be logical and well-founded arguments, Mr. HOBSON endeavours to show that the attitude and actions of recent British Governments are based upon a false conception of the causes and results of expansion in international trade and upon widely prevailing fallacies in our political economy. To those whose appeals for a strong policy are based solely on commercial grounds, Mr. HOBSON's arguments, the *Daily News* says, must come home with crushing force, for he shows in the clearest possible manner that the assignment of spheres of influence or even the acquisition of territory by rival powers does not imply, and has not hitherto resulted in, a corresponding loss of markets to England. In a series of tables he shows: (1.) That in the last forty years our trade with foreign countries has increased in proportion to the trade with British possessions;

(2.) That our trade with British possessions, whose area in 1896 was 11 millions of miles, was of a smaller total value than in 1883, when the area was 7 millions of miles; (3.) That from 1875 to 1895, our trade with the United States, France, Germany, and Russia combined, increased from a total value of 256 million pounds to 293 millions, while that with British colonies increased only from 161 to 171 millions; and (4.) That whereas in 1873 our national expenditure on armaments was 24 millions sterling, in 1897 it had risen to 41 millions.

We should for our own part be disposed to think that Mr. HOBSON's figures require very close examination, for we hold to the theory that trade follows the flag; but we are not now concerned so much with Mr. HOBSON as with the *N. C. Daily News*, which accepts his theories and conclusions, but goes on to say that "the weak point in Mr. HOBSON's armour lies in his apparent inability to realise that the 'militant Imperialism' of our foreign policy is not in reality based upon the necessities of our commerce but upon an ineradicable instinct of the race; the same instinct which sent Cæsar's legions to the ends of the earth, which has to-day led the 'peaceful democracy' of the United States to Cuba and the Philippines. It is this instinct, the racial craving for supremacy and pride of place, the silent working of that endless struggle in which the fittest only survive, that calls our ever-growing armaments into being: our commerce is but a by-product and a fitting excuse for further journeyings afield." In other words, Great Britain has become infected with the chauvinism which in France has always appeared to the English nation so irritating and unreasonable, the same spirit that led to the sending of Major MARCHAND to Fashod, and which in countless other instances has led France to oppose England, not because she had anything to gain herself by so doing, but simply because in the racial craving for supremacy and pride of place she wished to humiliate or obstruct a rival.

This is the spirit breathed by Dr. MORRISON, the *Times* correspondent at Peking, by whose opinions we believe Lord CHARLES BERTSFORD has allowed himself to be affected. His Lordship in his speech at Shanghai said that as regarded trade he had "got no complaints to go home with," that trade was at present very good, but that "so far as development goes, people are not inclined at all to do anything to develop their trade largely because they do not see what policy the Government is going to put forward at home, and as far as security for trade and commerce goes, both from what I have been able to learn and also from what I can see for myself, I would say there is absolutely none in this country whatever." Let us then in the interests of trade proceed to create the security it demands, not by opposing, in our racial craving for supremacy and pride of place, any other Power that is genuinely engaged in the benign work of opening up the dark places of the earth, but by taking action on our own account in the same direction. Lord CHARLES, however, is all for opposing Russia, though he says he does not blame her at all for what she is doing, that if he were a Russian he would use the very best efforts he could to place himself in Peking and then the Yangtze. Why does his Lordship not advocate a similar boldness of policy for his own country? Manchuria is clearly marked out by destiny as a Russian possession, and we may, with much advantage to our own trade and to the cultivation of friendly relations, leave Russia untroubled

in the work of opening up the provinces included in that designation. But the whole of China proper, with the exception of Germany's sphere in Ssantung, lies open before us. Why not walk in and possess it, to the extent of giving it an honest Government and the material development of which it stands in need? The racial craving for supremacy and pride of place, if controlled by reason, may serve a useful purpose, as does emulation between individuals, but let the craving find its satisfaction in doing more and better work than others, rather than by a display of the spirit of obstruction which has for so long characterised France's policy towards Great Britain. Our Shanghai contemporary says "we may at least learn from Mr. HOBSON to lay less stress upon our commercial necessities in matters of foreign policy and more upon the exigencies of our Imperial interests." But the exigencies of our Imperial interests, in China especially, are indissolubly united with our commercial necessities. Our interests in China are in fact entirely commercial, and to sacrifice those interests for the temporary gratification of a racial craving for supremacy and pride of place by needlessly humiliating or obstructing a rival would be suicidal.

LI HUNG-CHANG'S REINSTATEMENT.

(Daily Press, 26th November.)

According to our Shanghai morning contemporary, telegrams have been received there from Peking to the effect that the Empress Dowager is determined to reinstate LI HUNG-CHANG in the Tsung-li Yamen, and that Russia has given her consent to the reappointment. Another telegraphic announcement runs that the Grand Secretaries LI HUNG-CHANG and HSU HUNG have been granted the privilege of riding in two-bearer sedan chairs within the precincts of the Western Palace Gates as a mark of special grace on the part of the EMPRESS. Whatever truth there may be in these reports, it was well known that the veteran ex-Viceroy of Chihli has all along been in high favour with the Dowager Empress. They have now, it is known, shared in the spoils which LI discovered the way to make out of contracts, for many years, and both have waxed exceedingly rich at the expense of the country they have so long misgoverned and hoodwinked. The Old Lady of Peking has found the astute LI a most useful tool and coadjutor, and until Japan appeared on the scene and pricked the bubble which this wily mandarin had blown it was generally believed not only that he was the most powerful mandarin in China but that he had a substantial force, naval and military, behind him. Probably he himself knew pretty well at what value to estimate the resources he had gathered. He was well aware that a sufficient sum of money had been spent on ships, guns, and soldiers to secure a fairly respectable fighting force; he must also have been aware that this force was largely mythical, or that at best it was a very hollow sham. That fact did not, however, greatly trouble the man; he accepted the defeat and disgrace of his country with astonishing philosophy, being chiefly anxious to maintain his personal influence unimpaired. Such was the ignorance and apathy of the Chinese Government, that his reputation, though badly smirched in the eyes of all civilised Powers, was not materially damaged at Peking. One reason for this was that the consequences of his action had not been made plain; the blame was not at once

saddled on his shoulders. When at length his enemies were able to demonstrate that he was mainly responsible for the failure of China to make any stand against her plucky antagonist, he did for a time fall under a cloud; but his fall was softened for him, and he was despatched to St. PETERSBURG to represent his country at the coronation of the CZAR. On his return he succeeded, by the judicious use of some of his ill-gotten gains, in regaining much of his old influence, and has ever since no doubt been studiously paving the way for his own return to power. The EMPRESS DOWAGER, who viewed with dismay the reforming projects of the Emperor KWANG SU, was more than ready to receive this ancient servant into renewed favour, has been only too glad to take him into her councils, and though Li may for the moment be in nominal retirement we may be sure that he has all throughout the recent revolution in the capital taken a hand in the drama.

The intimation, therefore, that Her Majesty has resolved upon the reinstatement of Li in the Tsungli Yamen is not surprising. How far, if true, the step would effect the political situation it is not easy to determine. In the first place, if the sanction of Russia for the measure has really been sought, and those of other Treaty Powers been treated as unnecessary, it would be significant and serious. To Great Britain it would be a deliberate and intended affront; to the other Powers a slight. It would be an affront to the former, because it was owing to the demand of her Representative at Peking that LI HUNG-CHANG was dismissed. If would be a slight to the remaining Powers because it would signify that, given Russia's approval of the reinstatement of the degraded Minister, their opinions were not worth consulting. If such a measure has really been resolved upon the Foreign Ministers would be justified in declaring that they had been slighted and refusing to meet the objectionable member at the Yamen. We trust, however, that there is no foundation for the report. The scheming Empress Dowager cannot be prevented from continuing to make LI HUNG-CHANG her adviser-in-chief, but she can be requested not to use him as her mouth-piece at the Council meetings or to openly flaunt him in the eyes of the Ministers as her chief counsellor. The fact that Li is strongly Anglophobe is of course another reason why the British Minister should stick to his guns and decline to act with a man who has done so much to create bad feeling between Great Britain and Russia. If LI HUNG-CHANG is permitted to renew his career of intrigue and corruption, peaceable relations with China for any length of time will become impossible, and sooner or later the Treaty Powers will be involved in the meshes of a new Eastern Question more difficult, more complex, and more dangerous than that of the future of the Balkan peninsula. The situation is already rendered extremely critical by the attitude Russia has taken up in Manchuria; if it is to be complicated by the open re-accession to almost supreme power of an unscrupulous and insatiably greedy mandarin like LI HUNG-CHANG it will be impossible for Great Britain to steer a pacific course for long, at Peking.

CHINA'S PRESENT GOVERNMENT.

(Daily Press, 1st December.)

Although the Government of China is being carried on after a style it is difficult to define what that body is. The Tsungli Yamen still exists, but its members are liable at any moment to be removed as the result of some ignoble intrigue. As an instance of the weakness of the so-called powers that be, HU YU-FEN, the Governor of Peking, was early in November appointed to be a member of the Tsungli Yamen, but on the 17th idem an edict was issued removing him from the Board on the very day he was to have taken his seat there. This was, according to the Peking correspondent of our Shanghai morning contemporary, in consequence of intimidation used by a Tartar General named TUNG FUSHIANG. It seems that Governor HU came into collision with General TUNG during the recent riots at the Lukou Bridge. He followed the counsel of the British Minister on the occasion, acted firmly, had the soldiers punished, and got one of the Generals degraded. By thus doing his duty HU incurred the enmity of TUNG, who at once left Paoingfu, where he was in command, for the capital, where he procured an audience with the Empress Dowager and threatened to cause serious trouble unless HU's appointment to the Tsungli Yamen was cancelled. The EMPRESS, who feared this unruly soldier man would make good his threats, gave way, and HU was sacrificed. It is thus apparent that if the Emperor KWANG SU was weak, the EMPRESS DOWAGER is not strong, and there would appear to be a perfect dearth of reliable or patriotic mandarins at the capital. The officials are either all bent on self-aggrandisement or self-enrichment. The evil example set by LI HUNG-CHANG has cankered the whole mandarinat. Always addicted more or less to squeezing, it became, under his régime in Chihli, a fine art. In former times only limited and fairly well known revenues passed through the hands of the officials, but since the formation of an army and navy on modern principles and the import of arms and machinery from abroad a new field opened for exploitation, which has afforded greater opportunities for plunder and increased the rapacity of the officials. Hence the paucity of even tolerably good men. As officials go, Governor HU was believed to have been a fairly progressive and well meaning official. If, however, such a man can be removed from the Tsungli Yamen at the dictation of a turbulent General, it augurs ill for the administration not only of foreign but domestic affairs also.

Meantime it would appear that the Empress and her old ally LI HUNG-CHANG see in the necessity for controlling the vagaries of the erratic Yellow River a new opportunity for the exercise of the veteran's peculiar abilities. Under the plea—not it must be admitted without some ground—that there is an absence of ability among the present Ministers, the EMPRESS sent for Li after receiving the distressful memorials of the Governor of Shantung on the ravages of "China's Sorrow," and requested him to undertake the inspection of the river conservancy works. Li at first pleaded age and infirmity, but eventually agreed to undertake the duty and to proceed to Tsinanfu to consult with CHANG JU-MEI, the Governor. Li is shrewd enough to recognise that the only possible way of con-

trolling the Yellow River is to call in the aid of foreign engineers, and he is said to have immediately telegraphed to the Chinese Ministers in London and Washington to secure all the information obtainable in regard to the control of the Nile, the Ganges, the Irrawaddy, and the Mississippi. He may meet with opposition in seeking the assistance of foreign engineering science, but he will no doubt know how to deal with such opposition. The importation of dredgers and machinery would afford a chance for some nice little pickings and the prosecution of the works, if placed in his hands, would give him the handling of large sums of money. LI HUNG-CHANG and the EMPRESS are, it is true, both getting into the sere and yellow leaf, but age has not diminished the lust for lucre in their breasts, for avarice is a vice that grows with what it feeds upon, and it would be idle to expect any better results from their administration in the future than resulted in the past. The works for the conservancy of the Yellow River might be commenced and possibly, by the employment of foreign engineers something substantial effected, but the cost, under Li's supervision, could not fail to be enormous.

Another scheme for wasting money has been broached by another member of the present Administration. JUNG LU has recommended the repair and strengthening of the walls of Peking at an estimated expense of six millions of taels. As the walls even when so strengthened could not stand a siege by modern artillery, the money would simply be thrown away. It would be much more to the purpose to employ it either in rendering the garrison effective or by devoting it to the completion of railway communication between the capital and other centres of trade and population. The repair of the walls of Peking, however, would afford a magnificent opportunity for the exercise of the special official talent and many hungry nosed mandarins would rejoice to see the work commenced. The pretext put forward, to defend the city against banditti, is transparently thin. Peking has never seriously been threatened by bandits or insurgents, nor is it likely to be attacked by them in force. It may suit the Peking Authorities at the moment to pretend apprehension of such dangers, but they can at least protect the capital against internal foes, though they probably could not hold it for a day against a foreign enemy. Neither could they if the walls were strengthened in the manner proposed. Their best defence lies in the maintenance of good relations with all the Treaty Powers and in opening up the Empire to foreign trade and enterprise to such an extent as will make it the interest of all the Powers to support the independence of China.

THE AMERICAN ANNEXATION OF THE PHILIPPINES.

(Daily Press, 2nd December.)

The fate of the Philippine Islands is at last decided. Both these and the Sulu Islands are, by the terms of the Treaty of Peace between Spain and the United States, to be ceded to the latter Power. The Treaty, which is to be signed in a few days, has been accepted under protest by Spain, who has, on the question of the Philippines, only yielded to force majeure. It is, however, a wise conclusion on her part, for otherwise she would have only had to agree to harder terms in the end. As it is she escapes payment of an indemnity, which a less generous foe would surely have demanded, and she will receive twenty millions of gold dollars.

The "Taikoo" steamer *Chefoo*, Capt. Everest, which arrived at Shanghai on the 18th November from Swatow, reports that on the passage she picked up five Chinese, who were adrift in a sampan and signalling for assistance. They were landed on board the ship in an exhausted condition.

(equal to \$40,000,000 Mexican) in consideration of resigning the Philippines. The way has, it must be confessed, been made easy for her when it is considered that it would have cost her an unknown sum and a very large number of lives to re-establish her rule in the islands, where the insurgents, flushed with many successes and disposed (owing to the rapid triumph of American arms) to hold the Spanish cheap, would have been prepared to fight to the bitter end for their freedom from priestly rule. The Carolines do not appear to be included in the scope of the Treaty, but negotiations are proceeding, Reuter tells us, for their cession, presumably also to the United States, and for a monetary consideration. These islands are of no great value to Spain, especially apart from the Philippines, and the Spanish Government will no doubt be glad to be relieved of the government of so distant a possession. It is reported that the United States have it in view to offer Great Britain an island as a coaling station, but we fail to see that there is any ground for such a report unless the offer be in liquidation of the ancient lien the British Government held on the Philippines for the unpaid ransom after the evacuation of Manila. This claim has, however, never been pressed on Spain and certainly would not be revived in Washington. It was from no mercenary spirit or from any sense of favours to come that the British nation upheld the United States in their quarrel with Spain and were determined to see fair play during the conflict. It was the tie of kinship that produced the outburst of sympathy; it was, as EMERSON puts it, "the voice of blood, more audible than speech," that drew the two nations together.

The war is over now, but its lessons will not soon be lost: the new spirit of brotherhood between the Anglo-Saxons will not die out or readily cool down. The Great Republic has won easily and with comparatively small loss in either blood or treasure. She has acquired some new and great possessions which will give her for some time perhaps more trouble than profit, but which in the end will prove of incalculable value. It was the apparently unalterable policy of the United States not to acquire territory outside the boundaries of the American continent; but circumstances have proved stronger than tradition, more potent even than the constitution. This change has not been inaugurated lightly or readily. Neither of the great political parties favoured it at first, but the trend of events in the Far East probably convinced American statesmen more than anything else that the United States could not long continue a policy of isolation if she wished to retain her fair share of trade with Eastern countries. They have latterly witnessed the spectacle of Great Britain standing alone in Asia insisting on the policy of the "open door" to foreign trade while all the other European Powers showed a disposition to fight for their own hand. It was obviously the duty, as it was the interest, of the United States to support their parent in the attempt to preserve open markets, and the opportunity of securing a firm foothold in the Far East, such as the possession of the Philippines would give them, was manifestly too good to be lost.

With the advent of the American Power in the Far East, a new era will commence here. The resources and trade of the Philippines, always held in check by the misrule and illiberal fiscal and customs policy of Spain, will undergo great and rapid development, and

Hongkong, from its position and large trade with the islands, will reap a substantial share in the benefits accruing therefrom. Politically, too, the position will undergo a great and notable change. The United States will necessarily have to maintain a large military force in the Philippines, and the squadron, which formerly was a *quantité négligeable*, will henceforth be a force to be reckoned with. As time goes on American trade with Eastern Asia will enormously increase and will become extremely valuable, always providing that the Anglo-Saxons do not allow the European Powers to create commercial reserves for themselves out of China and Siam. Both Powers have, fortunately for their future welfare, awakened to the fact that they have interests to protect in these seas, and they will not stand quietly by and witness any further attempts to create new Tunisias in this part of the world. There is no actual alliance between Great Britain and her eldest daughter, but they have a very good understanding of what they want—"a fair field and no favour"—and they intend to have it. In all the world-wide British Empire there is freedom and a welcome for the foreign trader, who can carry on his business with no restrictions and enjoy the same privileges as British subjects. The Americans intend to administer their outlying colonies on the same liberal principles, and Germany, to her credit, has declared Kiaochau a free port. If other Powers will act reciprocally there need be no jealousies, heart burnings, intrigues, and misunderstandings, and the work of opening up that great oyster China to commerce and civilization may proceed amicably and rapidly.

HYDROPHOBIA AND THE PASTEUR TREATMENT.

(Daily Press 28th November).

The Sanitary Board at its last meeting adopted a resolution recommending the Government to introduce an Ordinance empowering the Board to prohibit for definite periods the importation of dogs from places at which hydrophobia is reported to exist and also empowering them to make by-laws for regulating generally the importation of dogs into the colony. There have recently been several deaths from hydrophobia at Shanghai to the north and in Tonkin to the south and with the danger thus brought so closely home to us it is the duty of the Board to devise means to protect the colony from the introduction of the disease if it can. The idea of prohibiting for definite periods the importation of dogs from places at which hydrophobia is reported to exist does not, however, strike us as promising to prove an effective measure. Nothing short of a long period of quarantine for every animal imported, as in England, or absolute prohibition of the importation of dogs, as at Singapore, could be regarded as affording any real security, and even such drastic measures as these would be of doubtful efficacy in Hongkong, for we do not see how dogs could be prevented straying across the Kowloon frontier from the adjoining Chinese territory, where rabies is understood to be endemic.

Allied with the question of the prevention of hydrophobia is that of its treatment should the disease unfortunately be contracted. There is a Pasteur Institute at Saigon and another at Nagasaki; to one or other of these it is usual to send suspicious cases of dogbite from other parts of the Far East, and a proposal for the establishment of a similar Institute at Shanghai has recently been advanced. The experience of

the working of the Institute at Saigon, however, does not appear to have been very encouraging, if we may accept the authority of a writer, evidently a professional man, in the *Courrier de Saigon*, who contributes an interesting and instructive article on the whole question of hydrophobia in Indo-China. Having described the symptoms of the disease in animals and in man, the writer suggests that popular imagination has exaggerated its terrors, which are less than those of lockjaw, whilst certain epileptic attacks are also attended by analogous conditions. He then propounds the questions: Is hydrophobia frequent? Is it often fatal? What is the value of treatment? To the first question he replies that hydrophobia is frequent in Indo-China, that scarcely a year passes in which two or three patients under treatment or after treatment do not succumb, while other deaths occur in the interior, as, for instance, a few years ago at Travin, where a woman affected with the disease bit several persons. Taking only the reported cases and instituting a comparison with France the conclusion is arrived at that the disease is twice as prevalent in Indo-China. The writer proceeds to throw ridicule on a belief which it appears exists at Saigon to the effect that the disease was unknown there before the establishment of the Pasteur Institute and that to Dr. CALMETTE and his operations its introduction is due. He reminds those who hold this belief that Java and Sumatra have always been recognised as the home of the disease, and that it is very common in India, the South of China, and Tonkin itself, and that it is absurd to suppose that Cochin-China, in the midst of the countries named, should have enjoyed immunity. Furthermore, the Saigon hospital records show cases to have occurred anterior to the establishment of the Institute.

But, asks the writer in our Saigon contemporary, if the Institute has done no harm, has it done any good? Very little, is the answer given, in so far as hydrophobia is concerned. A tribute is paid to the ability with which the establishment has been conducted, and to the services it has rendered in other directions, as in the supply of vaccine lymph, but the writer says he thinks very little of the Pasteur treatment as applied to hydrophobia. The expression of such an opinion, he says, has almost the air of a blasphemy, but no one more than he admires the work of the first savant of the century; to enumerate all that he has done would be to write the history of biological science; all bacteriology, all the immunising serums, are derived from his discoveries, and if the discovery of a sure treatment for hydrophobia is ever made the credit will be his in great part. Returning to Cochin-China, since the introduction of the anti-hydrophobia treatment the number of deaths has remained about stationary. In France the number has slightly declined. The mortality from the bites of mad dogs was formerly ten per cent. of the reported cases. The Pasteur method has reduced it to one per cent. Without going so far as to say that the Institute counts cases in which the individual was not infected, it is evident that the number of reported cases has enormously increased. The actual mortality figures are exact, but the former proportion of ten per cent. to the reported cases must possibly have been in reality from two to four per cent. if the cases had been sought out with the same care that the patients now take in submitting themselves to treatment. The one per cent., too, is in

relation to the number who undergo the complete treatment, but many deaths occur under different conditions. At Suigon, for example, the treatment is often commenced fifteen days after the date of the injury and those who die under such circumstances are, rightly, not included in the statistics of the Institute, though they swell the total number of deaths. Another point is that immunity is only assured at the end of forty days, while it seems that in Cochinchina the evolution of hydrophobia, like that of many other diseases, is more rapid. Of the patients that the author of the article has sent to the Institute for treatment two died, one on the twenty-fifth day and the other on the twenty-sixth. Here again the method is not to be blamed, but the cases count in the total. Now the total number of deaths from the disease remains in Cochinchina almost stationary; while in France it has slightly diminished, due possibly to preventive measures. It cannot be affirmed that the method has saved any particular individual, while cases of distinct failure have to be recorded. One which occurred in the practice of the writer of the article is typical. Two children of seven and eight years of age were both severely bitten in the calf of the leg by the same dog and at the same time; the mother refused to part with one of them; for the other the treatment commenced forty-four hours after the bite; both died, one on the twenty-fifth and the other on the twenty-sixth day, in similar fits. The serum used in the treatment for hydrophobia differs in character from all other anti-toxin serums, inasmuch as the microbe of the disease has not yet been discovered. Nevertheless the writer says that if he were himself bitten he would immediately seek the treatment, and he would recommend all others to do the same. If the Pasteur treatment adds only one or two to the ninety or ninety-five per cent. that recovered previously it renders a great service, especially when one reflects that it inspires the confidence and hope that are so valuable in such circumstances.

Thus far the writer of the article in the *Courrier de Saigon*. The article conveys the impression that the Pasteur treatment increases only infinitely the natural chance of recovery. If the writer's conclusions are to be accepted it seems hardly worth any one's while to travel long distances in search of the treatment, seeing that the time consumed on the voyage so greatly diminishes the original minute chance of benefit to be derived and that if the patient stays at home it is at least nine chances to one against hydrophobia resulting from his injury. But if the curative treatment is doubtful, on the other hand the possibility of completely stamping out rabies, and so removing all danger of hydrophobia in human beings, has been demonstrated by the experience of Singapore. Rabies was introduced into that colony by an expensive pack of sporting dogs that was imported, and it spread rapidly. The further importation of dogs was prohibited and rigorous measures taken for the destruction of all stray and suspected animals, with the result that for some years past there has not been a single case reported. The measures now taken in the United Kingdom, which amount almost to prohibition of the importation of dogs, may be expected to produce a like happy result. In Hongkong we are at present free from the disease and the chances of its introduction are not great, the disease being a very rare one, but if we wish to make absolutely sure of immunity a close permanent watch must be kept on the importation of

dogs, coupled with a system of quarantine and the destruction of all stray animals, especially such as may come over the Kowloon frontier.

ARRIVAL OF THE NEW GOVERNOR.

THE SWEARING IN CEREMONY.

A BRILLIANT SPECTACLE.

The new Governor of Hongkong, Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G., accompanied by Lady Blake, Miss Blake, and Mr. Lee Norman (private secretary *pro tem.*), arrived by the P. and O. steamer *Coromandel* on Friday morning, 2nd November, and was accorded a hearty reception. It was close on nine o'clock when the vessel was signalled, and about an hour later she, gay with bunting, entered the harbour, and was met by the Hon. T. Sercombe Smith (Acting Colonial Secretary) in the Government launch *Victoria*. In the meantime a large and representative company of ladies and gentlemen had assembled on Queen's Statue wharf and vicinity, including members of the Legislative Council, the Justices of the Peace, the members of the Civil Service, officers of the army and navy, and the various Consuls. The spectacle presented was a most brilliant one. The wharf, which was carpeted with scarlet cloth, had been prettily decorated. The poles were festooned with red and white, and a profusion of plants and flowers had also been called into requisition. A guard of honour composed of a detachment of the Hongkong Regiment in their striking uniform was drawn up on the Quay, and the Band of the Regiment was also in attendance.

At about 20 to 11 the fact that His Excellency had left the *Coromandel* was heralded by the firing of a salute from the Commodore's ship, the *Tamar*, and the shore battery, and soon afterwards the *Victoria*, with the British flag flying fore and aft, made her appearance. Lieut.-Col. the O'Gorman greeted His Excellency on the steps of the wharf, bidding him and Lady Blake and Miss Blake "Welcome to Hongkong;" a welcome which was warmly seconded on their mounting the wharf landing by the late Acting Governor (Major-General Wilson Black, C.B.). At the same time the guard of honour saluted and the band struck up with "God save the Queen." His Excellency was introduced to a number of the gentlemen present, including the Lord Bishop of the Diocese (the Right Rev. J. C. Hoare, M.A.), the Roman Catholic Bishop (the Right Rev. L. M. Piazzoli), the Chief Justice (Sir John Carrington, Kt., D.C.L., C.M.G.), the Puisne Judge (Mr. Justice Wise), Captain Sir Edward Chichester (of the *Immortalité*), and others.

His Excellency and Major-General Black then led the way to the Government Offices, the route being lined by European and Sikh members of the Police Force, in charge of the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police), and Deputy Superintendent Mackie. A guard of honour from the King's Own awaited His Excellency at the Government Offices. On entering the Council Chamber, where many ladies and gentlemen had already taken up positions, Major-General Black escorted the new Governor to the presidential chair and then seated himself on his right hand, the Chief Justice, in his gown and wig, being on the left. The members of the Legislative Council occupied their usual seats round the table, those present being the Hon. T. Sercombe Smith (Acting Colonial Secretary), the Hon. H. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney-General), the Hon. R. Murray Rumsey (Harbour Master), the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police), the Hon. A. M. Thomson (Acting Colonial Treasurer), the Hon. R. D. Ormsby (Director of Public Works), the Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., the Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, the Hon. E. B. Bellios, C.M.G., the Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, and the Hon. Wei A Yuk.

The CHIEF JUSTICE read Her Majesty's Commission as follows:—

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith, Empress of India; to Our trusty and well-be-

loved Sir Henry Arthur Blake, Knight Grand Cross of our most distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, greeting:

We do by this our Commission under our Sign Manual and Signet appoint you, the said Sir Henry Arthur Blake, to be during Our pleasure Our Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Our colony of Hongkong and its dependencies, with all the powers, rights, privileges, and advantages to the said office belonging or appertaining.

II. And We do hereby authorize, empower, and command you to exercise and perform all and singular the powers and directions contained in Our Letters Patent under the Great Seal of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland constituting the office of Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Our said colony and its dependencies, bearing date at Westminster the 19th day of January, 1888, or in any other Our Letters Patent adding to, amending, or substituted for the same, according to such orders and instructions as Our said Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the time being hath already received from Us, and to such further orders and instructions as you may hereafter receive from Us.

III. And, further, We do hereby appoint that, as soon as you shall have taken the prescribed oaths and have entered upon the duties of your office, this Our present Commission shall supersede Our Commission under Our Sign Manual and Signet, bearing date the 24th day of July, 1891, appointing Our trusty and well-beloved Sir William Robinson, Knight Commander of Our most distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George (now Knight Grand Cross of Our said most distinguished Order), to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Our said colony and its dependencies.

IV. And We do hereby command all and singular Our officers, ministers, and loving subjects in Our said colony and its dependencies, and all others whom it may concern, to take due notice hereof, and to give their ready obedience accordingly.

Given at Our Court at Saint James's this 11th day of December, 1897, in the 6th year of Our reign.

By Her Majesty's Command,

J. CAMBERLAIN.

HIS EXCELLENCY then took the oaths, which were administered by the Chief Justice, a salute being fired and the band of the King's Own playing the national anthem.

HIS EXCELLENCY then said—General Black, ladies and gentlemen: I wish to say with what pleasure I find myself at last in Hongkong after a considerable delay. I wish you to understand that I enter upon the duties of Governor of this colony with a deep sense of the importance of this great centre of trade, and I hope that during my administration of the colony its interests will not suffer at my hands. (Applause.) I can assure you anything I can do will be done to forward the interests of the colony of Hongkong. (Applause.)

HIS EXCELLENCY then left the building for Government House, the route being lined with Chinese constables.

SUPREME COURT.

28th November.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON
(CHIEF JUSTICE).

ROBINSON V. EMSLEY.

This was a consolidated suit respecting the dismissal of Benjamin Emsley from the service of Messrs. Robinson and Co., piano tuners and musical instrument sellers.

Mr. Francis Q.C. (instructed by Mr. J. Hastings) appeared for Mr. Robinson. Mr. Emsley conducted his own case.

Mr. Francis said this suit was brought by Walter George Vaughan Robinson against Benjamin Emsley for an injunction to restrain defendant from continuing in the employment of Messrs. Lane, Crawford and Co., merchants, as assistant in their business of piano-tuners and repairers, and music and musical instrument dealers, or taking any other employment or carrying on business on his own account, or in partnership, or on commission, or being engaged in any manner whatsoever, either directly or indirectly in the business of a piano-tuner, manufacturer, tuner or repairer, or music and music instrument dealer or any other business of a like and similar kind to that carried on by the plaintiff in the colony of Hongkong or within 20 miles thereof. Damages for breach by the defendant of an agreement entered into by the defendant with the plaintiff and dated the 25th January, 1897, whereby the defendant agreed for six years after the termination of his service with the plaintiff not to take employment in or

carry on any such business as aforesaid in the colony of Hongkong or within 20 miles thereof without the consent of the plaintiff, and costs. An application was made some short time ago for an interlocutory injunction, and it was arranged, on his Lordship's suggestion, that the hearing of this notice of motion should be dealt with as a hearing of the suit, and a cross suit pending in the Summary Court. Everything depended upon whether Mr. Robinson was justified in dismissing Mr. Emsley on the 30th September last from his employment for misconduct. If Mr. Robinson was not justified in dismissing Mr. Emsley, with some trifling variations or corrections Mr. Emsley's claim in the summary suit would of course stand. Mr. Robinson's claim for damages for breach of contract would fall through, as also his right to claim an injunction; so that the whole case turned on the question as to what were the terms of Mr. Emsley's contract with Mr. Robinson, and whether Mr. Emsley's conduct had been such during the time he was in Mr. Robinson's employ as to justify Mr. Robinson in summarily dismissing him. Assuming that his Lordship's decision on that point would be in favour of Mr. Emsley there would be after that the question as to whether under the circumstances Mr. Emsley would be entitled to the damages he claimed which was an equivalent to a month's salary, but they could deal with that in detail a little later on. Mr. Robinson's business was that of a musical instrument dealer, etc. He had a place of business in Singapore, one in Hongkong, one in Shanghai, and one in Tientsin. His Lordship would very easily understand that in a business upon the ability of that character Mr. Robinson had to depend very largely for the success of the business upon the steadiness, and upon the good conduct of the persons he employed. If his traveller who was sent out to tune and repair was not sober and steady and was not a good man of business Mr. Robinson's connection would very soon go. If the man sent round instead of making the best of his time and getting through at each port as much work as he possibly could in the course of the day—that was to say, as much as he could reasonably be expected to get through—idled about and went on the spree, Mr. Robinson's business was bound to be seriously affected. His Lordship would easily see and understand that if a man who was employed as a tuner and repairer of musical instruments was a man who was a heavy drinker—he would not say who was a drunkard, but a man who drank heavily and who lived in a dissipated fashion—he disqualified himself for his work. Such being the character of Mr. Robinson's business Mr. Emsley was engaged in England in the beginning of the year 1897, and the engagement was entered into on Mr. Robinson's behalf by a gentleman in Liverpool named Pearson. Mr. Francis read a letter sent by Mr. Pearson to Mr. Emsley and dated January 23rd, 1897. In this letter Mr. Pearson said Mr. Emsley's salary would be £15 sterling per month and the usual commission on sales, etc. Mr. Emsley replied confirming these terms. In the first instance Mr. Emsley went to Mr. Robinson's shop at Singapore. The sum of £36 15s. was paid for his passage and the sum of £10 was advanced to him in England on account of his salary to be repaid at the rate of £2 10s. per month. Mr. Emsley arrived in Singapore on the 16th March, 1897. He remained at Mr. Robinson's place of business in Singapore for about six months, and during that time he was under the manager of the business down there—a Mr. Cook—Mr. Robinson being down in Singapore for some portion of the time. From his arrival in March, 1897, up to some time in July, 1897, there were apparently no complaints against Mr. Emsley, but after that time Mr. Cook complained continually about his neglect of work and riotous behaviour. Mr. Cook would tell his Lordship that although never seen drunk, it was evident Mr. Emsley was drinking heavily from time to time, and although capable of going to business he was in an unfit state to do effectually the delicate business that he had to do as tuner and repairer. The first trouble apparently into which Mr. Emsley got when at Singapore was in connection with some riotous behaviour on the premises of the P. and O. Company. It was made the subject of com-

plaint to Mr. Robinson, and he believed it was made the subject of proceedings in the court down there. Mr. Francis read a number of letters which had passed between Mr. Cook and Mr. Emsley and Mr. Emsley and Mr. Ruchwaldy in connection with his frequent absences from business. Mr. Cook ultimately wrote to Mr. Robinson on the 18th of August, 1897, formally complaining of Mr. Emsley's misconduct and requesting that he should be taken away and some other man sent in his place. In consequence of this Mr. Emsley was ordered to come to Hongkong, where he arrived on Sept. 24th, 1897, remaining in Mr. Robinson's employ until the 30th of September last. Mr. Robinson would tell his Lordship that immediately on his arrival he had a very serious conversation with Mr. Emsley and warned him against any repetition in Hongkong of his conduct in Singapore. Mr. Emsley was absent from business on the 17th, 22nd, and 25th January, of this year. He was absent again on the 18th, 19th, 21st, and 24th May; again on the 13th, 16th, and 17th of June, and for these absences he could give no reason or explanation or medical certificate or anything else. In February, 1898, Mr. Emsley was sent off to Shanghai, and on the 16th March he was sent on a trip up the Yangtze as far as Hankow. He was away 11 days. He returned with practically no work done, and he admitted to Mr. Robinson on his return to Shanghai that he had been on the spree during the greater portion of the time. His expenses for the 11 days' trip amounted to \$95. His salary for the period was the equivalent of \$50, making a total of \$145. He had only done four days' work during the whole of those 11 days. The balance against him was \$99 and \$3.96—an advance which he had received on starting—which made a total of \$102.96, which Mr. Robinson claimed. On his arrival back in Shanghai Mr. Emsley remained there three days without reporting himself to the firm or going near their place of business or doing any work for the firm. Mr. Robinson then gave him notice on the 30th March that he should not require his services at the end of April. Mr. Robinson, however, after some serious conversation with Mr. Emsley, agreed to take him back again, and he was sent down to Hongkong. From that time up to the time of his dismissal Mr. Emsley had been known as a hard drinker. He habitually during business hours frequented the Grill Room, the Hongkong Hotel, and the Victoria Hotel. It was part of Mr. Emsley's duty to go to Macao every two months to tune pianos there, but he neglected his work so much that whereas when he commenced these visits to Macao the firm had 21 persons who regularly subscribed to have their pianos tuned the number had dropped to four, so that Mr. Robinson had been compelled to abandon the visits to Macao, because it would not pay with four subscribers. On the 15th and 16th August Mr. Emsley was absent from work without leave. He had asked on the 14th—Sunday—for half-an-hour's leave for the Monday to see a friend off, but he never made his appearance at business on the 15th or on the 16th the whole of the days. He was also absent on the 26th, the 27th, and the 29th without leave. It was stated in various affidavits that he was sick and suffering from diarrhoea on those days. An affidavit had been made to the effect that he was confined to his room during these days, but he thought he should be able to satisfy his Lordship that the greater part of this time he passed at the bar of the Grill Room. On the 30th August Mr. Emsley returned to business. Mr. Robinson suspended him for a couple of days while he was making up his mind what to do. He subsequently gave him a month's notice. During the month of September Mr. Emsley was repeatedly absent again, and on leaving on the 30th of September he took an engagement with Messrs. Lane, Crawford and Co. as a tuner on the 8th of October.

His Lordship—Then did he leave on the 30th September?

Mr. Francis said yes, but he formally presented himself one or two days afterwards and offered his services. Mr. Emsley's bills at Thomas's Grill Room for the month of August amounted to \$42.95. On the 25th he signed chits for \$0.75, \$1.5, \$0.50; on the 27th \$1.6 and \$0.50; on the 28th \$0.60, \$0.75, and \$0.40; on the 29th \$0.75, \$0.65, \$0.75, and \$1.10, and

these were the days on which it was stated he was confined to his room suffering from diarrhoea. At the Victoria Hotel on the same dates he also signed chits as well as on the 15th and 16th August.

Robert Charles Cook, manager in the employment of Robinson and Company at Shanghai and recently manager at Singapore, said he left Singapore on the 26th January, 1898, having been there since April, 1895. He was there as manager during 1897. At Singapore they repaired pianos, sold all descriptions of instruments, were tuners, and sold music. Mr. Emsley arrived in Singapore in March, 1897, and left some time in September in the same year. During a portion of the time Emsley was in Singapore they both resided at the Straits Hotel, and in consequence he saw something of him out of business hours. Emsley was a very hard drinker at times. This necessarily made him incapable of doing the work the firm had for him to do. He had on several occasions had to speak to Emsley on the subject of his drinking. They had frequently complaints from both subscribers and customers on account of the instruments not being tuned properly and his short visits. Witness sometimes had to go and do the work himself over again, but to avoid friction he said nothing to Mr. Emsley. His absences from business were very frequent, he being principally absent all day. The reason he used to give for his absences was that he had been on the spree and that sometimes he had been sick. On some of the latter occasions witness had seen him in bed, and as far as he could judge and from his own words he had been drinking over night. When absent from business he had on occasions seen him at the bar and in the billiard room of the hotel when absent on the plea of sickness. He remembered a trip made to the Native States in April or May of last year, and on Mr. Emsley's return complaints about bad work were sent in, one gentleman calling at the store and saying he wished he could see the man who had tuned his piano. Mr. Emsley was not there at the time, and consequently the gentleman did not see him. As a result of Emsley's visit to the Native States there was a loss of \$25 to the firm. When at Singapore Emsley spoke about getting into trouble with the P. and O. Company through his damaging a lamp and having a fight with one of the company's servants. It was early in May of last year that Mr. Robinson came down to Singapore. Witness was travelling for the firm the subsequent June and July. On his return he remembered Emsley being absent in August. While he was absent an order came in for him to tune a piano at Pahang, and he sent Emsley a letter telling him to go to Pahang by a particular steamer leaving on the 19th August. Emsley had been absent from the 15th to the 18th, so far as witness knew without excuse. On the 26th August he sent a list of the work to be done to Mr. Emsley, who had sent for a list. Emsley gave no reason for his absence on the 26th and 27th August. On the 27th Emsley wrote him a letter stating that he could not leave for Deli, first because of the short notice, secondly because he was suffering from an influenza cold, and thirdly because he was suffering from the effects of a ricksha accident. When he saw Emsley he noticed that he had a black eye, and in explanation Emsley said he had had a few drinks and wishing to make the coolie go faster he leaned forward. The coolie lowered the shafts and in consequence he fell out. Eventually Emsley did not go to Deli and thus lost a visit. He could not say what the loss was to the firm, but when he (witness) went there was a profit of from \$100 to \$150. On this occasion Emsley was away from business for 13 or 16 consecutive days—from the 3rd September to the 16th September. During that time he saw him in bed and also saw him in the bar and in the billiard room. Emsley arrived from Pahang at eight o'clock on the 22nd August, but he did not report himself until the following day. In consequence of all this witness wrote to Mr. Robinson and asked for Emsley to be removed. In reply Mr. Robinson wrote ordering him to come to Hongkong. After he had given Emsley definite instructions to leave for Hongkong he lost three steamers. That was the time he lost 13 or 16 days, and during that time he neither attended to business in Singapore

nor did he come up to Hongkong. He did not get any medical certificate or anything. He had never arranged with him that he could be absent any time if a deduction was made from his salary. Emsley suggested this. Witness protested but added that if this was continued he must deduct something from his salary. Witness was himself a tuner. The average time for tuning a piano was an hour, and a man could comfortably tune four pianos in a day. In the store he could do five. The tuner provided his own tools. Just before he left Singapore Mr. Emsley lost his tools. He said he had been having a few drinks and he lost them out of a ricksha he thought.

By Mr. Emsley—There is not a clause in my agreement as to commission. I remember that you said there was a clause in your agreement about commission, but I told you I did not think Mr. Robinson would allow you any. I remember you telling me in July of 1897 that Mr. Robinson had flatly refused to allow you any commission and that that was tantamount to getting men out from home under false pretences. With regard to the P. and O. case you told me it was dismissed with costs against the other party. I lived in the Straits Hotel about three months—March, April, and May. I was there when Mr. Mackie came up to Hongkong. I was there when you left on April 13th for the Malay Peninsula. I only joined you at billiards and drinking bouts on one occasion. I was in Mr. Pollard's room with you subsequently, but I don't call those drinking bouts. I remember our ricksha being broken and the accounts being sent in to the firm. I only remember one occasion. Your pay was deducted for those days you were away, but I protested. At the time you lost your tools you said an inspector of police named Crook was in the same ricksha. I have had complaints about my own work. Mr. Robinson has no house in Tientsin. I remember you forwarding me a letter dated July 1st from Foochow complaining about accounts which had been paid being applied for over again, and adding, "To use a strong phrase and between ourselves it is simply playing — with the biz. this second and sometimes third rendering of accounts which have previously been paid, as customers naturally get raw at it. Grege refuse to give us their tuning on that account, and there are several others here who are awfully bitter against the firm on that account."

By Mr. Francis—When at Singapore Mr. Emsley did not sell any piano or anything to entitle him to any commission. He reported that he had sold one, but it was one I had already sold myself.

By his Lordship—I remonstrated with Mr. Emsley on several occasions in consequence of his absences. I spoke to him about his habits of drinking, because his absences placed me in an awkward position. We never had any quarrels down at Singapore. He told me there was a clause in his agreement about commission. I never spoke to Mr. Robinson about commission. I have never received any commission on sales. My agreement does not contain a condition to that effect. I told him he was expected to sell pianos but that he would get no commission for it. In reply Mr. Emsley said this was absurd.

Mr. Robinson, on being sworn, said he was in Singapore from the third of April to the 28th July last year. Mr. Cook was there when he arrived. Cook subsequently went away but was back again before he went away. During his absence Mr. Ruchwaldy had the ordinary management of the branch. Mr. Cook had complained about Emsley, whom he said was a heavy drinker and not the style of man for Singapore. He spoke to Mr. Emsley on the subject. It arose out of a conversation he had with him on the question of commission. Emsley said there was some stipulation in his agreement about commission and that he had mentioned the matter to Mr. Cook, who had told him no one in the firm received commission and he did not think he would get it. Witness told him he objected to pay commission as it was a fruitful cause of friction between him and his employes, adding that two men might claim commission for the same sale, instancing a case. He told him he had come out on better terms than all the men who had preceded him, and he would much rather make it up by giving him something more than the salary as agreed.

The matter remained there, and he took it as settled. Emsley did not object.

His Lordship—What is the usual commission?

Witness—There is no usual commission. I have never paid a dollar commission to anybody in the firm.

Mr. Francis—Was your agent authorised to insert that clause in the agreement?

Witness said he was not. His agent had made the mistake of copying from an old agreement. Witness added that he was not aware that Emsley had sold anything to entitle him to commission. He received two letters from the P. and O. Company complaining of Mr. Emsley's conduct. He read the letters over to Mr. Emsley, who promised to go round and apologise. During the time Mr. Ruchwaldy was in charge of the Singapore business he had general complaints against Mr. Emsley. Mr. Emsley arrived in Hongkong about the 21st of September of last year. His main cause of complaint against him were his repeated absences without any explanation being given. Mr. Emsley's duty was tuning pianos. When not out tuning he had to work in the store or in the workshop. When engaged in the store Emsley would frequently leave his work and go across the road to Thomas's Grill Room. This commenced soon after he came from Singapore. The work done by Emsley in the store had been very bad work. Witness was not a tuner, but he had been 15 years in the business. He was, however, sufficient of a musician to know whether a piano was in tune or not. Frequently a Mr. Mackie had had to tune pianos within a week of Mr. Emsley having tuned them. Mr. Emsley used to visit Macao every two months for the purpose of tuning pianos. When he took the work over the firm had 21 subscribers at Macao, and when he left they had only four. There seemed to be general dissatisfaction with the work done. Three people dropped out because of a slight increase in the fee, but he had not included them in the number given. Witness then spoke as to Mr. Emsley being absent in January, February, May, June, and subsequently. Continuing, witness said he had a complaint about Emsley's Hankow trip. The total expenses were about \$110 and the earnings amounted to \$46. During the 12 months he had been in Hongkong Mr. Emsley had made seven trips for him. He always considered that Emsley was an unduly long time on the journeys in comparison with the amount of work done. In the majority of cases he was about double the time away as others who had done the same work. In one case Mr. Hickie had done as much in three days as Mr. Emsley had done in six. Emsley's visits to Macao were a dead loss and very little profit was made out of the Canton trips. On the 30th March he gave Emsley a month's notice, but the disagreement was subsequently patched up. During August and September Mr. Emsley had behaved abominably. He was away on August 15th and 16th and gave no explanation of his absence. He was in the workshop on the 17th but he could not find that he did anything on that day. In the workshop a fair day's work was the tuning of five pianos. Mr. Hickie sometimes tuned six. Mr. Emsley himself had done five pianos on one day. On one occasion he tuned six pianos, and those were out of doors. Apart from his little weaknesses Mr. Emsley was a fairly competent workman. From the 17th August to the 22nd he saw Emsley in the Grill Room and also in the Victoria Hotel. On the 24th of August, Emsley professed to have been in the store all day, but witness was satisfied that he did no work on that day. On the 25th August Emsley had entered in the book provided for the purpose that he was away half the day. Emsley was away until the morning of the 30th, when he suspended him for two days until he could take legal advice as to how to deal with him. Emsley said he was sick on the dates named, but he (witness) saw him going into the Grill Room and the New Victoria Hotel on the Saturday. He also saw him going into the New Victoria Hotel on the Sunday. The cheques produced were in Emsley's writing. They were dated from August 17th to August 29th.

29th November.

Mr. Robinson, continuing his examination-in-chief, said Mr. Emsley saw him on August 30th and asked him for his month's salary, which he refused. Mr. Emsley said their relations had been strained for some time past and he had better give him a month's notice. Witness suggested that he should resign, but Emsley said no he would rather he got his notice. Witness then took up his pen, whereupon Emsley said he would rather have his notice voluntarily. Upon this he said he would suspend him for two days and that in the meantime he would consider the matter. On the next day he wrote Mr. Emsley giving him a month's notice. So far as his knowledge was concerned Mr. Emsley did not come to his work at all on that day. He came on the second of September, which was the day on which he tuned six pianos satisfactorily. Emsley asked him for leave at about 11 o'clock on September 8th. He refused to grant him leave, but he stayed away, and he did not hear from him until the following day, when he got a letter from him stating that he must excuse him from coming to business as he was too unwell to do justice to his business. Emsley was also absent on the 9th, 10th, 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th, during which time he heard nothing from him. On the 16th, 17th, 18th, and 19th Emsley was at work. On the 20th he did one piano and was absent the rest of the day. On the 21st he was absent all day. On the 24th he only did one piano. It was quite untrue that they were over-staffed. He had had to telegraph for another man to fill his place. During the 12 months Mr. Emsley had been with him in Hongkong he had never had more than two tuners here, except when a man happened to be coming through, and during the whole of this time he had had ample work for them to do. Since Mr. Emsley had been here deductions had been made for his absences. He had not paid him his salary for August or September. He kept his wages back against money advanced to him and the cost of his passage out.

On being cross-examined by Mr. Emsley, Mr. Robinson said his business at Tientsin was in the hands of an agent just now. He had complaints from Mr. Cook in Singapore in April of last year although Mr. Emsley had only been there for about 26 days. He believed that in Mr. Hickie's agreement it was stated that the usual commission should be allowed. He did not know whether the clause appeared in Mr. Mayers' agreement. When they had this conversation about commission Mr. Emsley did not say it was tantamount to bringing men out under false pretences. He invited Mr. Emsley to tiffin two or three days after his arrival, and it was at Raffles Tiffin Room that the conversation about commission took place. He did not remember Mr. Emsley saying, after this conversation, that he would not spend ten cents for a ricksha with the view to selling anything for him. He had been through his ledgers, but he could not find that Mr. Emsley was entitled to any commission for sales. He paid him half-a-month's salary on his arrival in Hongkong last September. He did not know whether the other half was paid at Singapore or not. He did not remember his saying when Mr. Emsley went to Foochow last year that he should be satisfied if he did as well as Mr. Mackie, because the latter did not do so well on that trip. The total amount of work done by Mr. Mackie was \$132. Mr. Emsley's total was much more—\$230. But when Mr. Emsley made the trip the places had not been visited for some time. What he chiefly went on were the Canton and Macao trips. He could prove that when Mr. Emsley first went to Macao the firm had 21 subscribers. Mr. Mackie tuned 16 pianos when he went to Macao previously to Mr. Emsley. Mr. Emsley's trip after this showed that he also tuned 16 pianos. People whose pianos the firm had been in the habit of tuning might have gone away, but other people had taken their places. He did not know how many subscribers he had in Hongkong in August. Mr. Emsley went to Hankow under the name of Ransom, but he did not think it was on his suggestion. Two consecutive trips to Foochow resulted in \$230 and \$236. He was not aware a man could go from Hongkong to Foochow and not get on in less than ten days. He was not aware that the last time Emsley went to Foo-

chow he could not get out in less than 12 days in consequence of the boat being delayed by a typhoon.

By His Lordship—Up to the third of last August his relations with Mr. Emsley were fairly friendly. He did not authorise his agent at home to provide for commission. He did not prohibit commission. Nothing was mentioned about it at all.

When he came out under the impression there would be a commission, don't you think it would have been right to get the agreement altered or make him some allowance?—I did; that was what I offered him.

Under this agreement, if he had sold a piano the day after he arrived he would have been entitled to commission and you refused to give it to him?—I never did refuse. What I said was that I objected to this commission because of the likelihood of causing friction between me and my men, and I went into a long explanation as to how that might be done.

You told him if he conducted himself well his salary would be advanced?—That he would get as salary more than he was entitled to according to his agreement. At the same time I told him he got better terms than the others and that he was travelling a greater portion of the time, when he had practically board and lodging free.

Well, I put it to you, in a case like that it would have been more fair to have got his consent to amend the agreement or given him some equivalent?—Perhaps it would have been wiser to have done that; but while we were talking about it there was no demur and the matter dropped.

You see an employé in a case like that is in the hands of his employer to a great extent; he cannot say he would break his agreement?—Probably the wiser course would have been to do as you suggest.

Have you ever had complaints from the Hongkong subscribers about Mr. Emsley?—No, not personally; I have heard there have been complaints.

Mr. Francis—There will be evidence on that point just now.

Sidney Douglas Hickie said he was a piano-tuner, at present an assistant in the employment of the Robinson Piano Company. He had been in the employ of the company for two years and nine months, and had known Mr. Emsley during the time he had been in Hongkong. He was in charge of the business while Mr. Robinson was away three months before August 3rd last. During that time he had no trouble with Mr. Emsley. He had heard of on complaints against Mr. Emsley while he had been in Hongkong. He had been absent occasionally. No complaints had been received by him with reference to any bad work done by him. On one occasion—in August—he examined a piano supposed to have been tuned by Mr. Emsley. He found it a good deal below the pitch given by Mr. Emsley in the book. It was a good deal below concert pitch, though Mr. Emsley had left a memo to the effect that the instrument had been left at that pitch. He examined two other pianos on the same day which were apparently untouched though Mr. Emsley professed to have attended to them. He remembered tuning a piano at the house of a Mr. Drews, of the Praya East Hotel, on the 18th of June last. It was a hotel bar. Mr. Emsley and Mr. Springford were in the house at the same time. He thought it was 12 o'clock or half-past. Witness was there tuning. The order was sent in and he went. He thought Mr. Emsley and Mr. Springford had gone for a drive and that they had called. Mr. Emsley and Mr. Springford quarrelled, and he thought Emsley struck Springford. The latter was not at all sober, but Emsley was not drunk though he dared say he had had a drink. They were not turned out by the manager. Witness asked them to go out. Mr. Robinson was not in Hongkong at the time. He could not say what justification Mr. Emsley and Mr. Springford had for being in the hotel or out driving at that time.

By Mr. Emsley—At about 11 o'clock on Saturday morning, June 18th, Mr. Emsley came and asked to be set at liberty, as there was nothing much to do, and as the day was practically over he consented. He remembered visiting Mr. Emsley on or about 25th or 27th August, and to the best of

his belief he was ill. He also remembered visiting him on the 8th or 9th of September, when Mr. Emsley complained of a pain in his stomach. After business hours when in Hongkong they spent the evenings together two or three times a week latterly. He had never seen Mr. Emsley intoxicated; nor had he ever seen him unfit to perform his duties through excessive drinking. He considered Mr. Emsley competent, from what he had seen of his work, to fill the position he undertook.

His Lordship—Mr. Robinson says you are a competent man.

Cross-examination continued—Soon after he arrived in the colony he had a conversation with Mr. Robinson, whom he told it was absolutely impossible to maintain a wife and family on the salary he was then getting. He was now getting \$175 a month but when he came out it was \$125. Witness had met Mr. Robinson in London about a year before he took the engagement, and Mr. Robinson then gave him the impression that one could live cheaply in the East. There was a clause in his agreement about commission. Supposing he were an employer of labour he should not object to giving Mr. Emsley a situation knowing what he did of him.

Re-examined by Mr. Francis—His salary should have been \$125 a month, but he refused to work for that sum when he got here.

Francis William Stokes, book-keeper for the Robinson Piano Company since the 17th January last, said that in the absence of Mr. Robinson he was authorized to open letters coming to the store. He was always in the store. Mr. Emsley had worked in the store at different times when he had been there. On such occasions Mr. Emsley had attended to his work, though he sometimes went out for a few minutes exclusive of the tiffin hour. He had not the slightest idea where he went. He remembered a lady calling at the shop and asking that Mr. Cook should be sent up to tune her piano; she said she preferred Mr. Cook's work to Mr. Emsley's. On another occasion a Mr. Baxter came to pay his tuning account and said he wished to discontinue his subscription as he did not think the work had been properly done. Mr. Baxter mentioned one item entered by Mr. Emsley and said that he did not think the piano was tuned on that occasion. He did not know of his own knowledge that Mr. Emsley was in the habit of frequenting the Grill Room or the Victoria Hotel.

By Mr. Emsley—He told Mr. Robinson some time ago that he had never seen Mr. Emsley intoxicated during business hours or out of business hours. He might have had to leave the store sometimes to go for a tool to the work shop. He was not aware that on several occasions when he went to tune Mr. Baxter's piano no members of the family were present.

30th November.

R. C. Bamjee, who is employed at the New Victoria Hotel as clerk, said he was in the bar during the day time and he kept the accounts. He had accounts in his book for August against Mr. Benjamin Emsley amounting to \$16.8, of which \$2.25 was for meals and \$14.55 for drinks. Witness gave the dates on which the chits were signed. He himself had seen Mr. Emsley in the Victoria. He had seen him occasionally, some times during the day and sometimes during the night.

By Mr. Emsley—We charge fifty cents for a hundred game at billiards. I could not say how many games you played in the course of the month, but I frequently saw you playing. Sometimes you played for over an hour, during which time you would play two games of 100 up each. This was probably after tiffin or dinner. You may have played 12 or 14 games of billiards a month. Sometimes you would pay and sometimes the other man. Supposing you lost half the games it would mean you would have \$3.50 to pay for billiards during the month, which would leave \$11 spent in drinks for the month of August.

By Mr. Francis—Mr. Emsley is a good billiard player, but I don't know whether he generally won or not.

By the Court—In September Mr. Emsley signed eleven chits amounting to \$7.95, of which \$2 was for meals.

Lindsay Ruchwaldy said he had been in the employ of the Robinson Piano Company for about four years as assistant. His duties kept him mainly in the store. Mr. Emsley sometimes worked in the store. He could not say that Mr. Emsley was very punctual, nor did he stick steadily to his work during the day. He went in and out, frequently going to the Grill Room and the Victoria Hotel and being absent 15 or 20 minutes. He had seen him playing billiards during business hours at the Grill Room. Mr. Emsley on several occasions took Mr. Springford with him to the Grill Room and sometimes he went out with people who came to see him. He had several times been absent for whole days together, but witness himself had not seen him anywhere. He had never at any time seen him under the influence of liquor. Witness was not a tuner.

By Mr. Emsley—It is a fact we have not been on speaking terms for some time. During August you were employed outside. I have seen you playing billiards at the Grill Room during business hours in June. Mr. Springford is employed entirely in the workshop and to take him into the Grill Room you would have to go for him to the workshop.

Is it not a fact you are Mr. Robinson's spy?—No, I am not; but what I do I do for the benefit of the firm.

Did not Mr. Robinson, before he went to Singapore, ask you to take note of what was done by the European staff and report to him?—Yes.

You do not admit you are Mr. Robinson's spy?—I acted according to what I was ordered to do.

Did you receive instructions from Mr. Robinson to report what was done by the European staff?—Not from Mr. Robinson; I acted on my own behalf.

The Court—I understood you to say just now that when Mr. Robinson went to Singapore he asked you to report to him?—No; I was the oldest hand up here and I took it upon myself to see that the business was carried out properly.

You admit you are not a tuner?—Yes.

Still you have been doing tuning I believe?—Yes.

Li Kun said he had been employed as a bar boy at Thomas's Grill Rooms for about a year. He knew Mr. Emsley by sight. He had seen him in the Grill Room, when he came in sometimes for a drink and sometimes to play billiards. He came in sometimes at 12 o'clock and sometimes at five o'clock. He would generally have only a glass and then go away.

By Mr. Emsley—When you came in the morning you used to have a glass and a sandwich and go away. When you came in to play at billiards it was generally after five o'clock. The bar chits and the billiard chits are of different colours. The bar chits are blue, but supposing you played a game at billiards you might sign a bar chit for it.

Mr. Francis said he was sorry to say that two of his witnesses—Mr. Drews and Dr. Jordan—were not present. Mr. Drews was sick and Dr. Jordan had not kept his promise to be there at 11 o'clock.

His Lordship—Has Dr. Jordan been subpoenaed?

Mr. Francis—Yes.

His Lordship—Do you wish for his evidence to be given.

Mr. Francis—He was subpoenaed for the simple reason that he was sent by Mr. Robinson to see Mr. Emsley, and we thought it our duty to call him, but his evidence is of no importance, because he simply saw Mr. Emsley and heard what Mr. Emsley said and nothing more.

The Lordship—I will allow you to call him later.

Mr. Francis—And Mr. Drews, too, if we can get him?

His Lordship—What is he to prove.

Mr. Francis—With reference to the disturbance at the Praya East Hotel.

His Lordship—I do not think that is a matter of great importance. I think Mr. Hickie proved it was a kind of disturbance.

Mr. Francis—I think we can do without Mr. Drews and as Dr. Jordan would be neutral he could come at any time.

Mr. Emsley then proceeded to call his evidence.

George Springford said he was a practical pianoforte manufacturer and tuner and was until recently in the employ of Mr. Robinson. He remembered Mr. Emsley coming into the work shop one day towards the end of August wet through and he did not return to the place after tiffin. On his finishing his work at five o'clock he visited Mr. Emsley, who said he had not felt at all well since the wetting. Mr. Hickie called while he was there. To the best of his knowledge he should say Mr. Emsley was ill. Again on or about the 8th of September he visited Mr. Emsley when he had a cold in the stomach. Mr. Hickie and another friend were there at the same time. He was in Mr. Emsley's room in August when the boy from Robinson's came and peeped in and then went hurriedly away. He remembered Mr. Robinson suspending Mr. Emsley at the latter end of August. On each morning of his suspension Mr. Emsley presented himself at business, and he was present on one of those occasions on which he presented himself to Mr. Robinson and asked him if he had anything for him to do and he heard Mr. Robinson reply, "No; not to-day." He had never had tiffin or dinner at Mr. Robinson's expense. He remembered that some time in August and September Mr. Emsley was sent up to chip up and rough up pianos at the workshop. This work at home was usually done by apprentices and improvers. Many a man would refuse to do such work at home, as it would not pay. They had no apprentices here. Witness spoke as to the work done by Mr. Emsley to different pianos at the workshop. Mr. Emsley could not be absent from the workshop without his knowing it. In the beginning of September last Mr. Robinson asked him to consent to a new agreement allowing three months' notice to be given on either side, and this witness signed, but Mr. Robinson afterwards tore it up because it provided that the three months' notice should be commenced at the expiration of the original agreement. Mr. Robinson then drew up another agreement allowing one month's notice to be given on either side. Witness, however, refused to sign it.

By Mr. Francis—Before coming up to Hongkong I was in Singapore for a month. Mr. Robinson was not there when I arrived. I ran away from Mr. Robinson's employ and sailed for Japan under a false name on the 7th of Oct. I left a little bill behind me at the Grill Room for billiards and drinks. It extended over two months and amounted to between \$50 and \$100. My credit at the Grill Room was not stopped towards the end of September. I have been in the Grill Room with Mr. Emsley during working hours during August and September. We went to have a drink. I remember fighting with Mr. Emsley at the Praya East Hotel one Saturday in June. I had been out looking for apartments and Mr. Emsley was with me. I did not expect to get rooms at the Praya East Hotel, but I had been down that way. I had been drinking but I was not drunk. I used to go to the bar of the Grill Rooms at half-past ten or 11 every morning for breakfast. Mr. Robinson knew this. I did not get my breakfast at the boarding house because I had to be at the workshop by half-past seven. I used to have some beer and biscuits and cheese for breakfast. I have played billiards with Mr. Emsley in the evenings. Mr. Emsley is the better player. When I called to see Mr. Emsley in his room towards the end of August I did not have anything to drink with him on that occasion. I do not know whether Mr. Emsley kept empty whiskey bottles in his room to throw at cats. It was at the beginning of September that Mr. Robinson said he wanted to alter my agreement on account of the action Mr. Emsley was bringing against him. There is no mention of commission in my agreement.

By Mr. Emsley—I did not have my breakfast at home because I had not the time. Mr. Robinson only allowed me half-an-hour. When I first came to Hongkong I went down to business at half-past eight. This was afterwards altered to half-past seven, so that I could see the men come to work. I have never played billiards with you during business hours.

Sidney Douglas Hickie, on being recalled at the request of Mr. Emsley said—I expected to increase my salary by commission as stated in

my agreement. Mr. Robinson told me that there was no commission. I have sold pianos for him whilst travelling, but I have never received any commission. I don't think I asked for any because I did not expect to get any. The clause as to commission in my agreement was an extra inducement to me to accept the situation because I did very well on commission in England and in the West Indies.

By Mr. Francis—I gave evidence yesterday. In the meantime I have seen Mr. Emsley. He told me he was going to recall me to ask me about meeting me near Lyndhurst Terrace.

By Mr. Emsley—When I saw you last night you refused to discuss the case with me.

By the Court—During the latter part of the year we have not been overstaffed. There has been plenty of work for the staff to do.

By Mr. Emsley—I consider it a fair day's work to tune four pianos a day and three on Saturday—or 28 a week—giving a total of 112 for the month. I should think we got orders to tune 90 pianos per month, and there were two tuners, but there was also the stock. In the last few months you and Mr. Robinson have not been on good terms.

His Lordship, after tiffin, said he had considered the question as to whether Mr. Emsley could address the court as an advocate and also give evidence or only do one of these things. He had to rule that Mr. Emsley could do both. At the same time he hoped he would only do one.

Mr. Emsley, who elected only to address the court as an advocate, said his agreement stated that he should be paid the equivalent of £15 sterling per month and the "usual commission," but in July of last year Mr. Robinson absolutely refused to allow him any commission at all. This he distinctly told him was tantamount to bringing men out here under false pretences and that he would not spend ten cents in rickshas to sell him one piano if he was not to get any commission. Mr. Francis admitted in the early part of his opening statement that the passage money advanced by Mr. Robinson was not to be paid out of his salary as long as he remained in Mr. Robinson's employ; but Mr. Robinson in his evidence stated that he stopped his salary for advances made to him and for the debit of his passage out, two statements which were contradictory. As regarded all that transpired at Singapore he had nothing to say. Practically it was true, but it was condoned when he came up to Hongkong. He saw Mr. Robinson and a new arrangement was entered into by which all absences were to be deducted from his salary, no matter whether from illness or any other cause. His lordship would have noticed that the learned counsel in his statement and all the witnesses admitted that he was never seen intoxicated though Mr. Francis said he was a hard drinker. That remained to be proved, and he contended that it had not been proved. His Lordship would also have noticed that the charge of inefficient workmanship was dropped.

Mr. Francis said there never was such a charge intended to be made and if anything he said pointed to that it was unintentional. Mr. Emsley's competency was undoubted.

Mr. Emsley, continuing, said Mr. Robinson stated that when he first went to Macao the firm had 21 subscribers, but on the production of the book neither the learned counsel nor Mr. Robinson could make the number more than 18. Seven of these were retained either at Macao or other places visited by Mr. Robinson; four had left Macao; two he had no knowledge of; and the remainder had discontinued on account of disputed accounts or similar reasons, but through no action of his. His lordship would remember that Mr. Hickie stated his agreement stipulated that he would have the usual commission on sales effected while travelling. This agreement was made two years and nine months ago. Mr. Hickie drew Mr. Robinson's attention to the clause about commission and Mr. Robinson said it was a mistake. About 12 months afterwards he arrived at Singapore, and Mr. Robinson made the same remark to him when he called his attention to the clause. The clause was also in the agreement of another man who only came out in September. He contended that the clause was inserted to induce men to come out here, and as he had previously said, was tantamount to getting men out under false

pretences. He denied that it was his custom to frequent hotel bars or grill rooms and idle away his time when he should have been on Mr. Robinson's business. He might have gone out, as many other men did, to have a bottle of beer at mid-day, and he might have had another in the afternoon, but still he did not think any employer of labour in the colony would be so bigoted as to object to any such refreshment.

Mr. Francis then dealt with several of the points raised, including the commission clause, which he contended Mr. Emsley had waived. He asked for an injunction restraining Mr. Emsley in the terms of the notice of motion as to taking employment elsewhere; for the amount claimed by Mr. Robinson in his counter summons; for the dismissal of Mr. Emsley's summons; and he would ask his lordship for the costs of the proceedings.

His Lordship, in the course of an exhaustive judgment, said he was bound to come to the conclusion that Mr. Emsley was not an efficient and satisfactory servant and that Mr. Robinson, having put up for some time with his unsatisfactory conduct, was at last fully justified in dismissing him for neglect of duty. With regard to the application for an injunction, he thought it was clear on the point of law that Mr. Robinson was entitled under the agreement to the injunction for which he asked. The contract was terminated properly on Mr. Robinson's part, and Mr. Emsley was, he thought, to be precluded from carrying on work in the way mentioned in his agreement. He directed, however, that it should not be put in force for six months. With regard to the two summary jurisdiction suits, his lordship found for Mr. Emsley on certain items and for Mr. Robinson on others, leaving a balance of \$114.27 in Mr. Robinson's favour.

ST. ANDREW'S BALL.

Though the precincts of the City Hall may be silent enough the greater part of the year they experience a thorough awakening on the evening of St. Andrew's Day, when every room and corridor is for the nonce a scene of brilliancy and activity. This year has been no exception to the rule. On Wednesday evening, when the annual ball promoted by the Hongkong St. Andrew's Society in honour of the patron saint of the Land of Cakes took place, the interior had been transformed into a veritable fairyland. The decorations were pretty much the same as in previous years, and it is therefore unnecessary to describe them in detail. As usual hundreds of magnificent plants of different species, a varied and large collection of choice flowers, innumerable shields with the lion rampant or the thistle of Scotland, and no end of flags large and small had been utilised and disposed in a manner which for effect could hardly have been surpassed. The scene which met the view on ascending the grand staircase was indeed one to be remembered. An enormous thistle outlined with electric lights surmounted a large mirror, and on scarlet panels bordered with a profusion of greenery were the dates "1847" and "1898." On the top landing was a large portrait of Scotia's immortal bard, Bobby Burns. The decorations in the ball rooms—St. Andrew's and St. George's halls—whilst simple lacked nothing in effectiveness. In the Theatre, where the supper took place, special attention had been paid to the stage. Here the table for the distinguished guests stood embellished with flowers and surrounded with splendid plants, many of which were in full bloom, while in the back-ground were a couple of stands of arms. The library did duty as the card room and bar, and here as elsewhere the promoters provided for their guests with a liberality which would assuredly have evoked an exceptionally emphatic "Prodigious!" from Dominie Sampson, had that estimable pedagogue been there.

About 1,200 persons were present, and the assembly was typical of the Far East, being of a most cosmopolitan character. Outside the Britishers the Germans, who form an important section of the community of Hongkong, were probably most numerous, their numbers being augmented by officers from the German men-of-war in the harbour. The beautiful dresses of the ladies and the brilliant uniforms of the

naval and military men combined to produce an effect which was well worth witnessing. The picturesque Highland costume, however, was by no means so prevalent as one might under the circumstances have expected, probably not more than half-a-dozen kilts being in evidence. The unanimous verdict was that the ball was the most successful ever held, and for this the hon. secretary, Mr. J. Macgregor Forbes, and the different committees are to be congratulated, for to bring about such a result they must have been unremitting in their exertions.

It was about half-past nine when His Excellency Sir Henry Arthur Blake, G.C.M.G., and the Government House party arrived. H. E. Major-General Wilson Black, C.B., and party put in an appearance at about the same time. A procession was formed and led by the Society's piper, Mr. Adam Hogg, to the place of honour in St. George's Hall. The set of the President of the Society (the Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving) in the opening dance (Lancers) was made up as follows:—the Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving and Lady Blake, Sir Henry Blake and Mrs. Bell-Irving, Major-General Black and Mrs. Holland, Sir John Carrington, C.M.G. (Chief Justice), and Mrs. Black, the Hon. T. Sercombe Smith and Miss Anderson, Mr. D. Gillies and Mrs. Murray Bain, Mr. G. C. Anderson and Lady Carrington, the Hon. H. E. Pollock and Mrs. Forbes. The band of the King's Own, conducted by Bandmaster Tyrrell, supplied the music with the exception of that for the strathspeys and reels, for which the piper's services had to be requisitioned. The following was the programme:—

- 1.—Lancers *Cuidchan Righ.*
- 2.—Waltz *Ruacum Ruacum.*
- 3.—Caledonians *An Comunn Galeach.*
- 4.—Strathspey & Reel *Faile Sheamus More.*
- 5.—Waltz *Uilleam's Calum's Morag.*
- 6.—Eightsome Reel *Am Bramer air reang nan Teilear.*
- 7.—Waltz *Ben Cruachan.*
- 8.—Caledonians *Glen Albyn.*
- 9.—Strathspey & Reel *Cabar Feidh.*
- 10.—Polka *Fraoch Eilean.*
- 11.—Eightsome Reel *Port More McEwen.*
- 12.—Waltz *Bhratach Bhan Chlann Avidh.*
- 13.—Barn Dance *Bodach nam brigisean.*
- 14.—Waltz *Tha mi gu Tinn.*
- 15.—Highland Schottische *Tulach Ard.*
- 16.—Waltz *Fear a Chinn Mhoir.*
- 17.—Caledonians *Ardmore.*
- 18.—Polka *Cead mille aithe.*
- 19.—Waltz *Buachill nan Coorach.*
- 20.—Strathspey & Reel *Buaidh carachd.*
- 21.—Waltz & Galop *Auld Lang Syne.*

Supper was commenced at half-past 11, when the Governor's party, headed by the piper, marched to their seats at the President's table. Mr. G. L. Duncan, who looked very well in his Highland dress, carried the haggis, preceded by the piper, each being recompensed by a "dram." The haggis and short bread were on all hands voted excellent. Miss Anderson made the former and Mrs. A. G. Aitken the latter. The following is a copy of the menu:—

"Some hae meat and canna eat,
And some wad eat that want it!
But we hae meat and we can eat,
And sae the Lord be thankit."

Saddle of Mutton,	
Roast Turkey.	York Ham.
Roast Kobe Beef.	Corned Beef.
Corned Tongue.	Roast Capon
Gamie Pie.	Sheeps' Head Pie.
Pâté de Foie Gras in Jelly	
Lobster Salad.	Chicken Salad.
Roast Pheasant.	Roast Wild Duck.

THE HAGGIS.
Hot Potatoes.

"Fair fa' your honest sonsie face,
Great chieftain o' the puddin' race,
Aboon them a' ye tak your place."

"Freedom and whisky gang thegither,
Tak aff your dram."

SWEETS.

Gooseberry Tart.	Jam Tartlets.
Puffa.	Jellies.

BLANC MANGE.

Vanilla and Chocolate Ice Creams.
Scotch Shortbread.

"We'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet for auld lang syne."

During the day telegrams were despatched to the kindred societies at Calcutta, Singapore, Yokohama, Kobe, and Shanghai in the following terms:—

"Chief Bell-Irving and Hongkong Scots greet — Brither Scots, Forbes, secretary."

The following replies were received:—

From Shanghai:—"Caledonians, Hongkong.

—Chief Dudgeon and Brithers return greetings.

—Adamson, Secretary."

From Yokohama:—"Bell-Irving, Hongkong.

—Chieftain Mitchell and Brither Scots send greetings."

A unique telegram in Gaelic was received from Singapore. It was to the following effect:—

"Same Greetings. The days we have seen

and the days we have yet to see, and may we be

warm and affectionate friends for ever more.—

Taylor."

The different Committees were made up as follows:—

Invitation Committee.—Mr. J. C. Peter

(Convener), Captain Laurie, Messrs. H. A.

Ritchie, W. Chatham, D. Gillies, E. J. Main,

A. Coutts, G. Stewart, and Dr. Rennie.

Card Room.—Messrs. G. Murray Bain (Con-

venor), W. Nicholson, Hon. A. M. Thomson

and T. F. Hough.

Dancing and Music.—Mr. G. C. Anderson

(Convener), O. D. Thomson, H. A. Ritchie, D.

Landale, E. F. Mackay and A. Sinclair.

Supper and Wine.—Mr. J. Macgregor For-

bes (Convener), Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Messrs.

H. F. Carmichael, G. L. Duncan, A. C. More,

A. Donald, Jas. McKie, G. W. F. Playfair, T.

H. Reid, C. S. Sharp, A. Rodger, J. Waddell,

J. Alston, J. F. Boulton, W. D. Braidwood, G.

C. Fullerton, and A. G. Gordon.

Decoration Committee.—Mr. D. Macdonald

(Convener), Lieut. A. C. J. Campbell, H. K. R.,

Messrs. R. Mitchell, A. G. Gordon, E. J. Main,

J. R. Mudie, A. G. Ewing, and W. Ramsay.

The following is the list of Stewards:—R.

Adam, A. G. Aitken, J. Alston, G. C. Ander-

son, John Andrew, A. S. Anton, Geo. Murray

Bain, H. E. Major-General Wilson Black,

John Blake, J. F. Boulton, W. D. Braidwood,

A. C. J. Campbell, H. F. Carmichael, A. Coutts,

W. Chatham, J. W. Cumming, C. W. Dickson,

A. Donald, G. L. Duncan, A. G. Ewing, J.

McGregor Forbes, G. C. Fullerton, David

Gillies, A. G. Gordon, Captain L. A. C. Gor-

don, R. A., W. Douglas Graham, Commander

Arnot Henderson, R. N., H. H. Hill, Staff-

Sergeant Home, R. N., T. F. Hough, Hon. J. J.

Bell-Irving, J. W. Kinghorn, J. Kirkwood, D.

Landale, Captain J. H. Laurie, Major Little,

H. K. R., W. K. Low, D. Macdonald, A. P.

MacEwen, E. F. Mackay, Captain Donald M.

MacLachlan, K. O. R., F. D. Maclean, E. J.

Main, James McKie, R. Mitchell, A. C. More,

J. R. Mudie, W. Nicholson, Captain J. R.

Paton, K. O. R., J. C. Peter, G. W. F. Play-

fair, W. Ramsay, Archibald Reid, Arthur M.

Reid, T. H. Reid, Dr. Alex. Rennie, H. A.

Ritchie, A. Rodger, John Rodger, C. S. Sharp,

A. Sinclair, A. Findlay Smith, Gershom Stewart,

Murray Stewart, John Sutherland, W. Taylor,

Hon. A. M. Thomson, O. D. Thomson, J.

Thurburn, James Waddle, J. Maxwell Watson,

and Hon. T. H. Whitehead.

GREAT FIRES AT SHANGHAI.

HALL AND HOLTZ' STORE BURNT DOWN.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]
SHANGHAI, 27th November.

Two large fires occurred here last night simultaneously.

Hall and Holtz' store was entirely consumed. There was practically no salvage and the loss will be fully £15,000.

In the other fire ten Chinese houses in Hankow Road with three foreign houses in Albany Gardens adjoining were destroyed. The loss is as yet uncertain.

The transport *Avoca* leaves Crete on December 13th, with the 2nd Welsh Fusiliers whom she is taking to Hongkong. She leaves Hongkong on January 16th, with the 1st Battalion Lancaster Regiment, and is due in Singapore on January 21st. She drops the Lancaster men here, and sails on the 22nd, with the West Yorks, who replace the 2nd Highland Light Infantry at Karachi.—*Straits Times*.

NEWS FROM THE PHILIPPINES.

MORE TROOPS ARRIVE AT MANILA.

TRANSPORTS "OHIO" AND "INDIANA"
DUE IN A FEW DAYS.

A BANQUET TO THE ADMIRAL.

[FROM OUR MANILA CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, 23rd November.

On Monday evening about eight o'clock the fleet lying off Manila signalled, "Transports sighted." A boat was dispatched to meet them but long before she was within hailing distance the search lights, whipping across the sea, had picked up the strangers, who sailed up the bay in the path of the light. They proved to be the *Valencia* and *Senator*, which left San Francisco on October 19th. They brought the following troops:—The Second Battalion of the First Washington Volunteers, a hundred men from the California Heavy Artillery Volunteers, two assistant surgeons, and several hospital stewards. Besides these were the recruits, numbering one battalion of the Second Oregon Volunteers and the 3rd Battalion of the Third U. S. Artillery.

Other troops are to follow very shortly in the transports *Indiana* and *Ohio*. As they are supposed to have left within one week of the *Valencia's* sailing, they may be expected any day. The troops assigned to them are the remaining battalion of the First Washington, two battalions of the Twentieth Kansas, the Fifty-first Regiment Iowa Volunteers, two battalions of Tennessee Volunteers.

This will complete the assignment of troops for the Manila expeditionary forces and 8th Army Corps. It is not likely that more men will be sent unless the present conditions change.

In a short time it is expected that some of the troops quartered in Manila will be ordered to Iloilo and Cebu to preserve quiet and protect foreign interests. The scene of action during the last two weeks has been the southern part of the islands. The *Charleston* came up from Iloilo, presumably to report and to coal. She was immediately ordered back and left the bay in a few hours. Major Bell, of the Bureau of Military Information, returned by the *Charleston* and it was on his report that quick action was taken.

The rebels have massed large armed forces near Molo and Jaro and can take these places almost without resistance. The Spanish General Rios communicated with the rebel leaders on the 18th inst. and proposed that the above towns be considered neutral ground, provided he withdrew his troops to Iloilo; but the offer was declined. H.M.S. *Plover* arrived at Iloilo on the 17th inst. and will protect the British residents if the town is attacked. The rebels are massed in such force that they can easily carry the city, and if they have made an attack it has probably fallen already.

The guns from the Spanish boat *Isla de Luzon* have been landed and set up for the defence of the city.

During last week the *Elcano* and a small gun boat sailed into Sarsogon, the hemp port, and called for the surrender of the city, which was flying the Insurgent flag. The rebels hoisted at the Spanish, who then fired three shells from the *Elcano* into the town, but did little or no damage. The stout show of resistance put up by the natives caused the Spanish to turn about and leave the harbour.

The Admiral, his Captains, and the General of the Army of occupation, and others are to take thanksgiving dinner with Consul O. F. Williams. It will be a distinguished gathering and will inaugurate the American custom in the Philippines.

Manila, 25th November.

The most distinguished gathering that has ever come together in Manila, met at the Hallmann Residence yesterday afternoon to take dinner with the United States Consul O. F. Williams, and inaugurate the good old custom of thanksgiving.

The guests began to assemble about one o'clock and an hour later they had all arrived, and were conducted by the Consul to the dining hall, where names set at each plate and handsome souvenir menus indicated the

different seats. The menus represented on the face an American flag in colours and a gold finished eagle. In varied type was the following:—"Consul Williams' Thanksgiving Dinner, offered to the American Commanders, in the residence of Mr. G. Hallmann. Manila, Calzada de Iris 17. Thursday, 24th Nov., 1898." On the reverse was "America for ever."

Speeches were not to be in order although everybody would have been pleased to hear from three or four of the guests.

At the conclusion Consul Williams made some interesting remarks in which he thanked the Admiral and his Captains, the General and his Generals and the Englishmen and other foreigners for their presence. He pointed to the American flag and said he hoped it would always wave in the Philippines. (Applause.) Continuing he touched on the kindly attitude of England toward America during the late disturbances, and spoke of the honour and love that they had won in the hearts of all Americans. (Applause.) Finally, coming to the subject of the day, he hoped the present distinguished inauguration of thanksgiving would not be in vain and that the feast would be observed for all time in the Philippines.

The guests and host were seated in the following order:—

Consul O. E. Williams.

Admiral Dewey	General Anderson
General McArthur	Capt. Ogilby, Raleigh
Capt. Dyer, Baltimore	Brig.-Gen. Reeves
Lt. Brunsreuther, apt of Port	British Consul Ramsden
G. Cadell, Smith, Bell & Co.	Lt. Bailey, Signal Corps
Capt. Singer, Manila	Belgian Consul Andree
H. D. C. Jones, H.K. & S. Bank	Capt. Walker, Concord
J. McLeod	T. Owen, Keuter's Agent
J. T. McUTCHEON, Chicago	chaplain Fleming
Record	Gen. Owenshine
E. L. Jones, Assoc. Press	F. Brooks, Ed. American
E. Wildman, Vice. consul, H.K.	Mr. Warner
Major St. mberg, U.S.A.	W. R. Vail, P.-M. General
Col. McClure, Paym.-Gen.	Capt. Lamberton,
P. G. McDonnell, N. Y. Journal	Olympia
Brig.-Gen. Hale	Gen. Otis, U.S.V.
Capt. Leutze, Monterey	
G. Hallmann.	

Consul Ramsden, in replying to a toast to his nation, said he had studied the attitude of nations during the late war with Spain, and the relations between his country and America were such as to please him very much. The friendship was most natural. Two countries bound by ties of blood, speech, government, commerce, and unity of aim could not fail to be allied. Though greater statesmen and lawyers than he had advocated it none did so with more warm personal interest. (Applause).

Admiral Dewey complimented Consul Andree on his activity during the blockade, and many expressions of friendship were exchanged.

At five o'clock the guests adjourned.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

The fortnightly meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board was held on 1st December, when there were present the President (Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer), the Vice-president (the Hon. F. H. May, Captain Superintendent of Police), Mr. J. Dyer Ball (Acting Registrar-General), and Dr. Clark (Medical Officer of Health and Acting Secretary).

THE FOOD SUPPLY OF THE COLONY.

Messrs. May and Osborne, the sub-Committee appointed to enquire into the question of the utility or otherwise of further employing the night watchman at the Cattle Depot and the three watchmen at present on duty at the entrance gate to the slaughter-house at Kennedytown during the 24 hours in shifts of eight hours each, reported:—

"The night watchman at the Cattle Depot is on duty from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. inside the depot. Mr. Ladds informs us that, as far as he can ascertain, the watchman was placed there to look after the cattle during the night. As the gate to the depot is locked and the key of it kept by the European inspector of the Cattle Depot and slaughter-house during the hours of the watchman's duty, and as the cattle are all passed and marked as fit for food before they are placed in the depot, there appears little danger of their being tampered with at night. Certain Chinese employes at the depots sleep within the enclosure of the Cattle Depot who could attend to or give the alarm of any disturbance among the cattle. We are therefore

of opinion that the night watchman may be dispensed with.

"The duty of the three watchmen at the entrance to the slaughter-house is to see that no animal not marked (or in the case of swine passed) fit for slaughter is introduced into the slaughter house.

"These watchmen appear to be untrustworthy. On the day that we visited the slaughter house one of them was detected in allowing a dead pig to be passed into the slaughter house, and we understand from Mr. Ladds that he has reason to believe that this breach of their duty is a common occurrence.

"We have after careful consideration come to the conclusion that it is waste of money to retain these watchmen, and we recommend that, as suggested by Mr. Ladds, their services be dispensed with at the end of the current year. This will result in a saving in respect of the salaries paid them of \$90 per month.

"We have examined the system in force at the depots and slaughter house of checking the number of animals passed into the depots with the numbers slaughtered and passed out, and with the additional checks suggested by Mr. Ladds in the case of cattle and sheep of checking daily the carcasses when marked and the fresh skins with the numbers passed up for slaughter, we are of opinion that the system is probably as good as it can be made. That it is not perfect is quite obvious, for an animal might be taken to the slaughter-house, dressed, and passed out again without ever appearing on the records kept at the depots and without coming under the cognisance of the inspector in charge.

"To make the system perfect it is necessary that there should be at the slaughter-house trustworthy and constant European supervision to see that no animal is admitted for slaughter in an irregular manner. To provide such supervision would entail additional expense which at the present time we feel it is useless to recommend.

"To place, however, the existing European supervision at the depots and slaughter-house at Kennedytown, and at the markets on a better footing, we agree with Mr. Ladds that it is desirable to devote a portion of the saving effected by reducing the staff of watchmen to increasing the salaries of the inspector in charge of the depots and slaughter-house and in charge of markets and we recommend that the salaries of both officers be raised to \$120 a month each. This will place both officers on an equal footing and will render it possible for them to interchange duties for certain periods as may be directed, which will in itself be a safe-guard.

"We consider the present salaries of these officers too small considering the responsible positions they hold and the many temptations they are exposed to, and with the withdrawal of the watchmen at the slaughter-house and the introduction of the system of marking carcasses after they have been dressed and checking such marks subsequently in the markets their duties and responsibilities will be increased.

"But although the measures above recommended may, and we think will, if adopted induce improvement in supervision of the flesh food of the colony we must place on record our emphatic opinion that this all-important item of the food supply of the community can never be effectually safeguarded as long as the slaughterhouses, and especially that at Kennedytown, are in the hands of a Chinese foreman. We are therefore strongly of opinion that at the next opportunity the slaughterhouse at Kennedytown should be brought under the direct control of the Sanitary Board as recommended in C.S.O. 1410, 1898."

AN APPLICATION REFUSED.

An application to retain water-closets at the Ice Factory, East Point, had been received.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said he adhered to the policy laid down by the Board and acted upon up to date. He, therefore, moved that the application be refused.

Dr. CLARK seconded and the motion was carried.

PROPOSED WASHING TANKS AT TAI HANG.

Papers were submitted dealing with proposed washing tanks at Tai Hang village.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said there was no doubt that the conditions under which the clothing of the European community was washed at the present time was very unsatis-

factory indeed. In the dry weather a very large number of garments belonging to various families and different owners were washed in the same water over and over again and he thought the Board would learn with much pleasure that at last a beginning was to be made to put the conditions under which European clothing was washed on a more satisfactory basis. The reason he wanted to see the plans was that in the scheme proposed by the Medical Officer of Health there was a little sketch plan accompanying it which showed the tanks arranged on a system which was capable of being adopted and passed and then indefinitely extended. Of course if the scheme of the Director of Public Works was on similar lines, and if after spending \$5,000 it would be possible to go on adding to the tanks—which would really have to be done if adequate accommodation was to be provided—the scheme was a very desirable one. He moved that the Government be asked to forward the plans and the fullest information of the scheme to the Board for its information and consideration.

Mr. DYER BALL, in seconding, said it was most important in a colony like this that they should have their clothing washed in a sanitary method. Would there be any guarantee that the coolies would change the water frequently? Could supervision be exercised over them to put this in force? If it could it would be a useful thing.

The motion was carried.

MORTALITY RETURNS.

The mortality returns for the colony of Hongkong for the week ending Nov. 12th show a death-rate of 19.2, against 15.3 for the previous week and 18.4 for the corresponding week last year. The returns for the following week show a death-rate of 18.2, against 23 last year.

The returns for Macao show 49 deaths for the week ending November 13th and 38 for the following week.

The Board then adjourned.

MACAO.

To anyone who knows anything of Malacca, our settlement in the Straits Settlements, Macao revives reminiscences by no means strange. Situated forty miles from Hongkong, Macao affords easy means of access. The islands opposite the bay encircling the place, silted up miles in front, as if to defy an enemy to do its worst in attempting to enter the settlement, with its muddy river on the side, though the latter is easy of access, in contradiction to Malacca, are there to remind the traveller of facts which stand in singular contrast with the past glory of Portugal in the Straits Settlements. The churches on hillocks, some of them disused, the forts scattered about, showing that Portugal's greatness lies in its weakness and the numerous buildings erected according to Portuguese style of architecture, all tend to portray to the traveller that former grandeur of Portugal so visible still either at Residency Hill, Tranquerah, or Bandar Hilir in Malacca. Any portion of the latter spot places figuratively before one the waning colonial power of the Portuguese whenever placed in juxtaposition or near contrast with or to British enterprise or neighbourhood. Malacca stands to Singapore what Macao does to Hongkong. Contrast therefore the relative positions of the first in regard to the second and the third in regard to the fourth—decadence in both places. As Singapore opened up, so Malacca declined; and reversing the tables, as Hongkong flourished so has Macao sunk. To the ignorant mind cause and effect may prove a difficult problem, but to the Britisher the reason is easy of solution, and that lies in our mode of Government, founded upon laws, as against other nationalities whose laws, manners, and customs differ so very widely from ours. Conservative as to their own ideas and religion as some of our competitors have been, they have ever failed to adapt themselves to the *locus in quo* wherever they have settled. Who can doubt, therefore, as to their failure in competition and their ill-success when placed in juxtaposition with ourselves? Macao forms no exception. We have here the very proof, if such were needed, of the want of energy, forethought, and persistence so peculiar to our people. The Portuguese in Macao, though they have now free trade in a comparatively well laid out city, streets and squares reminding one more of the West than of

the East, buildings some of which are in strange accord with monuments to be seen amongst the best style of architecture in Portugal, the very life and business, so easily visible in our own colonies are, however, lacking. The wish is the same, but the power or ability is wanting. Religion they have, but immorality prevails. Who can therefore be astonished at failure being the consequence. See the numerous gambling hells at Macao, termed on hotel bills "The Monte Carlo of the Far East." An impoverished Government to make both ends meet resorts to a gambling farm. \$40,000 is the revenue, it is said, derived from such source. To meet this amount how much must the farmers resort to extraneous measures! Sixteen gambling houses in the more crowded parts daily and nightly resort to their hideous performances to attract the unwary individual: to snook as it were the very life-blood out of the place. And here is to be traced one of the causes of the downfall of this once thriving centre. The Portuguese are religious, but in this respect their religion is outward. Abolish gambling, one of the greatest curses of humanity—Hongkong knows something about this—and Macao may yet be a thriving place. Who the people are who inhabit the well regulated and clean houses one sees in this curious place, supposition points to a good many being residents depending upon Hongkong relatives for support, that rich colony which, like the Straits Settlements, has opened up such wide fields for the children of Portugal. That the Portuguese were wise in choosing Macao as a settlement in China natural appearances show. With only a few mountain ridges here and there, nature seems to have meant Macao, bordering upon the sea, to be an outlet for commerce. Instead of railways and huge commercial godowns, however, one sees nothing but depression. Surely nature has been here misunderstood. It can safely be asserted that if Macao had been in England's hands it would now stand in a better position to Hongkong than relatively Malacca does to Singapore as a suburb. This brings us to the relationship between Macao and Hongkong. The former during the necessary Anglo-Chinese war formed our seat. Before that time our fellow subjects there traded until the cession of Hongkong. Macao to Hongkong and therefore to the British is a place of immense interest, and here as elsewhere tombstones tell the tale. A visit to the Oriental looking little square building with a verandah encircling it and the coloured glass in front, doing duty as a church, tells us that Britishers, aye, Americans too, have not been in the background. Who can enter within its portals without thinking that after all England is no stranger to Macao. The small communion table, the reading desk with its old Bible, its prayer and hymn books, are all there to tell one that however foreign the flag may be that floats over the citadel British influence prevails. Those of us who appreciate English American names are reminded that though some are "lost to sight" they are still "to memory dear." Read for instance the second of the only two tablets in the little church to the memory of the departed, a tablet to the memory of one of the Endicott's, a descendant undoubtedly of that famous John Endicott, one of the original patentees of the Plymouth grant, who emigrated to Massachusetts in the sixteenth century and so many of whose descendants are still endeared to our country. The perusal of the tablet excites one's feelings in respect of those people, our kith and kin, towards whom Britain's friendly hand through obvious circumstances now more than ever extends. The charming wife of our present Secretary of State for the Colonies is an Endicott. How appropriate therefore is the reproduction of the following:—

Sacred
to the memory of
JAMES B. ENDICOTT,
Who resided many years in this city.

He was born at
Danvers, Mass., U.S.A., August 6th, 1814,
arriving in China in 1833, where he lived 35 years,
and died after a short illness, November 5th, 1870.
He is buried in the "Happy Valley," Hongkong,
where his death occurred.

Two of his children, Lilly and Rosalie, are sleeping
in the cemetery adjoining this Church.

He was an affectionate father,
a faithful husband and warm hearted friend,
and a general helper of all who laboured to extend
the Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
Given to Hospitality.

Rom xii. 13

Amongst many other English names now adorning the little graveyard in the Protestant churchyard of Macao may be read that of Captain Spencer Churchill, a son of the late Duke of Marlborough (a name also closely allied to America) and a worthy scion of Her Majesty's navy. The sonnets of Macao have been sung by Sir J. F. Davis and Sir J. Bowring. The foot of the bronze bust of Camões, the distinguished Portuguese poet who wrote a portion of the *Lusiads*, and after whom the Camões gardens are named, shows this. Let the reader pay a visit to this charming spot and he will see how appropriate the verses, both in English and in Latin, are. Placed under a huge granite rock, itself resting on two naturally separated similar freaks, nature seems here to speak for itself and in eulogy of the poet who artificially thus rests beneath it and to adopt the superstitious Chinese idea of luck of passing through or resting beneath a naturally formed archway. Inclination alone prevents now a corollary of the praises mentioned. By our advance on Deep Bay and Mira Bay we are now in wonderful touch with our friends the Portuguese. Of future possibilities who can tell? To the antiquarian and to the student of early European settlement and intercourse in China, Macao affords considerable scope.

J. W. N. K.

LAWYERS AND THEIR WIVES.

The biography of the late Sir Frank Lockwood is full of interest to the legal profession. To those barristers who happen to have taken unto themselves wives, a remark of the learned biographer may call forth perhaps a word of approval on the part of the devoted women who often have to put up with the ill-temper, selfishness, and general callousness for social intercourse so characteristic of the man of the law given to constant study. Says the learned biographer, Mr. Birrell, Q.C., M.P.:—"It might be unbecoming and even hazardous to assert that barristers make good husbands, but that they generally have good wives is, I think, the case." A very correct view to any one familiar with the facts, and no one perhaps, more than Mr. Birrell, is in a better position to assert it. Many of those of the profession who burn the midnight oil will agree with him. It is doubtful if there is a more learned and laborious set of men, a class more given to literature and study, than the higher branch of the profession. To effect their purpose, therefore, a close application to books, pen, and paper bring on that worry and toil which the poor spouse realizes but too often to her cost. The lower profession not being given to literature—this is said in no mean spirit—the natural conclusion therefore is that they make better husbands.

TRAGIC OCCURRENCE AT MACAO.

MURDER OF THE COMMANDANT OF THE GARRISON.

Our Macao correspondent writes that on Monday, at 11.30 a.m., a soldier of the Macao Battalion fired two rounds from his rifle at the Commandant, Colonel Porpalario Zeferino de Souza, while the latter was in his quarters at the barracks. Of the two bullets fired one took effect, hitting the Colonel on the right side and coming out at the left, a little below the heart, breaking three or four ribs and leaving a wound the size of a cheese plate, the stomach and bowels being exposed. The Colonel was at once removed to the military hospital, but very slender hopes of his life being saved are held out.

The assassin, having accomplished his object, gave himself up, surrendered his rifle and revolver, and said, "I am satisfied now I have killed the man." Many rumours have been in circulation in respect to the affair. It appears that for some time past there has been a feeling of discontent amongst the men, who conceived that they were not being treated with justice.

Colonel Souza came out to the East many years ago. He served originally as A.D.C. to his uncle, the then Governor, Senhor Sergioe

Souza. Afterwards, he served in Timor and upon attaining the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel was transferred from that island to Macao. A few months ago H.E. Senhor Galhardo appointed him Commandant of the Garrison, and about two months ago he was promoted to the rank of Colonel.

OXFORD LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.

JULY, 1898.

Superintending Examiner—Rev. T. W. Pearce.

BOYS.

Senior A. A.—

(D) Benning, G.	(Q) Hayward, E. M.
(J) Guterres, L. E.	(Q) Im Yat-wing
(J) Hopun, P. M.	(Q) Pestonjee, R.
(J) Talara, A.	(Q) Silas, C. D.
	(T) Joseph, J. E.

Junior—

(D) Chan Yat	(J) Melendreras, J. J.
(D) Olsen, J.	(J) Remedios, C. C.
(J) Biard, H. V.	(J) Silva, T. J.
(J) Costa, H. T.	(Q) Hayward, C. B.

Over age—

(D) Wilnan, P.	(Q) Li Chi-on
	(Q) Ng Fung-chau

Preliminary—

(D) Clerihew, W. J.	(J) dos Remedios, P. M.
(D) Moore, H.	(J) Hahn, A. C.
(D) Strangman, K. T.	(J) Taylor, H.
(J) Afah, C.	(Q) Abraham, R.
(J) Botelho, A. J.	

Over age—

(D) Fan K.	(Q) Ghulamali, R.
(D) Li Chi-lung	(Q) Humphreys, E.
(J) Osmund, G. V.	

GIRLS.

Senior A. A.—

(T) Rustonjee, G. M.	(V) Rodgers, M. F.
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Junior—

(T) Wilson, G. H.	(V) Marcus, M.
(T) Wilson, N. L.	

Over age—

(B) Benning, H.	(P) Chan Yut, E.M.M.
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Preliminary—

(B) Moore, E.	(V) Lewis, E.
(P) Long, E.	

B—Baxter School	P—Belilios Public School for Girls
D—Diocesan School	Q—Queen's College
J—St. Joseph's College	T—Private Tuition
V—Victoria English Schools for Girls	

GEO. H. BATESON WRIGHT,
Honorary Local Secretary.

N.B.—No Honours were obtained. Information of Distinction not yet to hand. Certificates may be expected in a fortnight.

THE BRIBERY CASE.

THE ACCUSED COMMITTED FOR TRIAL.

At the Magistracy on Saturday before Commander Hastings, Frederick Howard Kew and Lo Wing, in the employ of the Sanitary Board, were charged on remand with attempting to obtain a bribe of \$15 from Au Ping Kwan, of 157, Hollywood Road. They are also to be charged with attempting to obtain a bribe of \$20 from Tang Chan, 146, Hollywood Road.

Mr. Francis (instructed by Mr. Grist) appeared for Kew.

Mr. Francis—I was going to ask your worship, before you proceed further, if you have made up your mind to deal with the case summarily or commit it for trial.

The Magistrate—Commit it for trial.

Mr. Francis—Then I have nothing further to say. I do not propose to cross-examine any more witnesses or to give any more evidence.

Captain Superintendent May—I would like to recall Dr. Clark.

Mr. Francis—I object to his being recalled. I understand it is for the purpose of vindicating Pang's character, which has nothing to do with the present case at all.

The Magistrate made a note of Mr. Francis's objection, but allowed Dr. Clark to be recalled. The Magistrate, reading from his notes, said that in his examination in chief Dr. Clark said there was a suggestion "that Pang should be shifted to another department, the suggestion being made in connection with the bribery charges in connection with the Sanitary department."

Captain Superintendent May—I would ask your worship to ask Dr. Clark if it was in connection with bribery. There was no bribery in the matter. Bribery is a strong term, and in this particular instance it is too strong a word. The Magistrate—That is what the witness said.

Mr. Francis again objected, contending that the matter which the Captain Superintendent had raised had no bearing on the case.

Captain Superintendent May—I should like to ask the witness what were the circumstances—whether they were connected with bribery or not.

Dr. Clark—It was alleged that Mr. Pang was financially concerned in a certain contractor's business, and that he made use of his official position to further the interests of that firm. An enquiry was made, and the allegations were not proved.

Captain Superintendent May—That is all, your worship.

The Magistrate—Any questions, Mr. Francis?

Mr. Francis—No, sir.

The accused were then committed for trial on the first charge. The hearing of the other charge will take place to-day.

Kew was allowed out on bail—\$1,000.

THE PUNJOM MINING CO., LIMITED.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he has received the following progress report on work done at the Company's mines in Pahang during the month of October, 1898:—

JALIS.

August Shaft (No 1 shaft). Level No 4 (303 foot level). North Drive.—This was continued northerly on same sort of lode formation as recently, a distance of 32 ft., when it was stopped, the prospects here not appearing to warrant driving further.

South Drive No 2.—This was continued southerly, mostly through country rock only, a distance of 18 ft. 6 in. when it was stopped, the prospects here not appearing to warrant driving further.

Level No. 3 (219 level). Prospecting Winse No. 1.—This was started on and sunk through a low grade ore body on the dip thereof, a distance of 15 ft.

Prospecting Winse No. 2.—Preparations to start this were completed.

TANKONG.

Shaft.—This was continued 11 ft. through easily worked ground, making a total depth of 54 ft., when it was stopped to open out for cross cut drive at Level No. 1, 50 ft. from surface.

Level No. 1.—A cross cut westerly towards the ore body developed in adit tunnels stone, was started and driven through country rock 10 ft., when a lode was discovered in chamber opened at this level, striking in the direction cross cut was driving; hence it was stopped, and drive started westerly on the lode, to develop it and the same ground the cross cut would develop. This was driven 12 feet on the lode, which is about 3 feet thick and, though low grade, I think is payable now. A drive northerly from the shaft was put in 9 feet 6 inches to be sure we had the full thickness of the lode proven.

Machinery.—Finishing placing a boiler and pump here from one of the shafts at the Jalis. Mine was completed.

NEW FIND.

Adit Tunnel No. 1, West Drive.—This was continued on the lode 5 feet, when it was stopped.

Adit Tunnel No. 2, East Drive.—This was continued on the lode 13 feet 6 inches, when it was stopped.

West Drive.—This was continued on the lode 11 feet, when it was stopped.

These drives were all stopped because of the lode not carrying sufficient gold or being of sufficient promise to appear to warrant driving them further, particularly in view of the fact that the same part of the lode that these drives were developing could be tested nearly, if not quite as well, and much cheaper, by trenching the surface of the lode, the work of doing which was instituted, and some two or three hundred feet thereof uncovered, but nothing of value or promise found as yet.

SOUTH TANKONG.

Adit Tunnel, West Branch.—Drive on this was continued northerly 19 ft. on lode formation, but nothing of value or particular promise developing and the shaft developing much the same ground, work was stopped here.

Shaft.—This was continued on the lode 19 ft. 6 in., making it a total of 23 ft. deep, but the good values had above disappeared. At the bottom hereof a cross cut was driven across the lode 18 ft., showing it to be about that width, but nothing payable in it here. Some prospecting work was done on the surface here, the continuation of which may develop a sufficient quantity of good payable ore (a little of which was heretofore had at this point) to amount to something.

MIDDLE TANKONG.

Adit Tunnel.—This was driven on the lode here 36 ft. This lode is large and strong, but no payable ore developed in it as yet.

KALAMPANG.

Adit Tunnel, No. 1 Drive West.—This was driven 57 ft on the lode. No 1 Drive East.—This was started opposite No. 1 drive west, on the same lode, and driven 18 ft. thereon.

No. 2 Drive West.—This was driven 52 feet on the lode.

No. 2 Drive East.—This was started opposite No. 2 Drive West, on the same lode, and driven 14 feet thereon.

Nothing of payable value has developed in either of the two lodes here.

SELANGO.

This is a place where some work has been done by Europeans sometime ago, and prospecting has been renewed here.

WEST JALIS.

Adit Tunnel.—This was driven near the "Jalis" works to test a quartz outcrop, but a permanent lode has not been proven as yet. Some low grade ore was developed, but nothing to pay.

HADJI.

This is a quartz outcrop in the neighbourhood of "New Kind," which is being prospected.

GUBAU.

The old works here were cleaned out, but nothing was done beyond preparing to put on a pump and hoist, to do which it is necessary to complete a road, now partially constructed, from these works to the Jelai river, a distance of about 4½ miles, the work of which was commenced.

MILL.

Stamps.—These were run what time would equal 28 days 20 hours' continuous run.

Pans.—Some of these were run part time.

Three Stamps Prospecting Mill.—This was run a short time.

A 1 on ore and product and for amalgam and bullion as follows:—

Ore Crushed:	Tons	Amalgam ozs	Bullion ozs.
Stamps—			
Headings	3108.5	518.65	193.54
Tankong	101	41.50	15.50
Tankong	7.3 (test).	7.75	2.90
South Tankong	2.23	8.19	2.80
	3219.03	576.09	214.74
3 Stamp Pros. Mill—			
Tankong	1 (test)	2	.75
Pans—			
Tankong Concentrates —		2.25	.95
To Tankong " (test)—		3	1.12
Tankong " " —		1.60	.60
Sundry Stuff " " —		29.35	10.95
" " atained —		11.10	4.14
		625.39	233.25

The bullion realized, from the several lots treated per above, being estimated from the percentage the total bullion was to the total amount of amalgam except in the instance of 2.23-100ths ton test on "South Tankong" ore. Bullion assay here 868 fine gold, and 98 fine silver, or a value, figuring silver at 2s. per oz., of £; 13 11½ per oz.

CYANIDE WORKS.

These were operated what would be equal to the full month, as the material which was in process of treatment from 17th September is included in October's results. 391 tons of tailings were treated for a product of 12.5 ozs. of bullion assaying here 202.8 fine gold, and 84 fine silver, or a value, figuring silver at 2s. per oz., of 17s. 4.7d. per oz.

GENERAL.

Transport.—This is still inadequate.

Water Power.—Water has been sufficient for power all the time.

Rainfall.—This registered 5.485 inches at manager's house and at Kuala Lipis, between 7 and 8 miles away, 13 feet 86 inches.

Health.—Has been generally good.

Timber and Firewood.—This has been plentiful.

Labour.—The supply of the kind of labourers we were short of has improved somewhat.

GREAT EASTERN AND CALEDONIAN GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

Messrs. Lutgens, Einstman & Co., the General Agents, have received the following report from the manager at the mines:—

Great Eastern Mine.—The contracts have put the rise up about six feet; the stone showing free gold, and I hope to be able to start the leading stope here next week. I very much regret that it has been omitted to sink on the reef from the old main shaft a winze simultaneously with the sinking of the main shaft, as it would have been finished by now, giving air, and above all would have prepared this mine for stopes on a larger scale, whilst now we have to rise to the surface, a slow and expensive matter. We have now to wait for each individual rise of 7 feet before we can add another stope, if the air during summer time does not become bad. Otherwise the prospects here are very promising.

Zulu Mine.—The drive north is in 40 feet and although the chute cut out on a cross head, we immediately recovered it in the footwall, but at time of writing I cannot say what the new chute is like. The drive south is in 36 feet, and also here the reef cut out, but was recovered in the hanging wall; at time of writing it is ten inches wide, but the wall had not been shot out quite, so that it is impossible to give the correct width. A fine seam of gold can be seen in the stone below by candle light. In the southern end the reef has been difficult to follow, breaking into the hanging wall twice, as now, but whilst local opinion predicted only short chutes, we have had so far a splendid vein of gold for over 80 feet; without that we have come upon the other chutes either way, which have been worked in the olden days, and that is very promising.

We have started the leading stope in this mine both ways and I shall put on as many men as possible, as well as carry the shaft down another 100 feet, as soon as the stones are carried in a little further. This has so far turned out a wonderfully rich mine and there is every prospect of its continuing so. We have about 100 tons on grass from here.

Rise and Shine.—We have met here with a slide unfortunately, which cut out the reef in the face, whilst it is all the way under foot, and we have therefore started the drive two sets higher up above the floor, and expect to cut it again in a few shifts. In the upper level the reef is about 12 feet wide and to all appearances rich. We shall get a lot of stone from this claim soon. Also this shaft should as soon as possible be sunk another 100 feet.

We have about twenty tons on grass here.

Bank of England Mine.—The drive north is in 38 feet, carrying with it a reef of about 7 feet in width, but the last 19 feet have been so mullocky that I have stopped the contract, as we can employ the men more profitably elsewhere at present. I have two shifts driving south on a four feet reef which will no doubt be more defined as soon as the men get further away from the floor, which also here has caused a lot of trouble. The third shift is employed in driving on the rich cross reef north to see where it is going. In the south it has apparently become part of the main reef. We made an important discovery on this ground the other day, about 150 feet south of the shaft, by laying bare either another or the same chute of gold on the surface. It is 8 inches wide on the cap and the quartz shows gold to the naked eye. We have between 300 and 400 tons on top.

Battery work.—Owing to quite unexpected delays over which I had no control the machinery will hardly be completed before middle of next month, or end of it. Timber which

had been promised four weeks ago is not up yet, and the machinery from Mount Gray is only on the road now, notwithstanding all endeavours to quicken matters. The shed is rising fast, the stamps are up, and it should be fast work now. The battery excavations have revealed a number of promising parallel reefs, one very good one being discovered only to-day, but unfortunately our capital does not admit of taking the many other promising places in hand at once.

We are also busy digging the Slime pits.

THE INTERNATIONAL COTTON MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.

The fourth ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the above Company was held at the Central Hotel, Shanghai, on the 22nd November, Mr. E. A. Probst presiding.

The CHAIRMAN, in the course of a long review of the Company's position, said the interim dividend of 3 taels per share paid for the six months ending the 31st March amounted to Tls. 25,134, and considering the profits of working account to that date showed Tls. 63,305.16 to credit, the directors considered they were fully justified in paying the said interim dividend. The balance of working account to the 31st March showed a profit of Tls. 63,305.16 from which they had unfortunately had to deduct a loss of Tls. 23,748.82 made on the working of the six months to 30th September last, leaving a net profit on working account for the year of Tls. 39,556.34. They regretted to say that the final result of the profit and loss account was a loss of Tls. 5,239.97, to be carried forward to new account. He felt he need not weary them by a lengthy discourse on the past history of their yarn market. The crisis through which their industry has passed was well-known to them. Suffice it to say that when the directors saw the danger that threatened, they first of all took the precaution of suspending night work, and subsequently they went on short time, viz., working only four days a week, and thus, he was glad to say, were able to do without in any way disorganising the labour employed at the mill. He was glad to be able to state that they had since been able to realise the whole of their stock of yarn at their stock-taking prices. Moreover, the mill was again working the full six days a week, and their production was sold for a short time ahead. He was happy to say that all things considered the accounts he had just analysed were not altogether so unsatisfactory. When they considered that early in the year they sold their yarn No. 16s. as high as Tls. 8, which latterly only fetched Tls. 62 that they had been working on cotton costing Tls. 16 and 17 per picul, the market value of which was now Tls. 12.75, he thought they would come to the conclusion that the accounts rendered are not bad, and that beginning the new year as they did with a clean book they might look forward to the future with some degree of confidence.

The report and accounts were adopted.

A resolution was passed providing for an increase in the rate of interest on the debentures authorised to be issued from 6 per cent. to 7 per cent. and a further resolution providing for a change in the management, the American Trading Company having consented to a cancellation of their agreement as General Managers, on certain terms, and the directors having decided to run the company independently with their own manager and their own offices and staff.

From the *Lusitano* we learn that Miss Eduarda de Brito Galhardo, daughter of the Governor of Macao, had the misfortune to sustain a dislocation of one of her legs last week. The patient is progressing satisfactorily.

Prince Henry of Prussia has done another of those graceful little acts of simple courtesy which endear him to everyone with whom he comes in contact. H.R.H. personally called upon all the young German ladies in Shanghai who contributed to the floral memorials laid on the *Illis* monument to return them thanks for their thoughtfulness, which we venture to say was not more than the Prince's own in thus graciously acknowledging the compliment which they paid to the heroic memory of the *Illis*.—*China Gazette*.

CRICKET.

THE NAVY V. THE CLUB.

A team representing the Navy were pitted against the H.K.C.C. on Saturday afternoon. As will be seen from the score the match resulted in a draw. The Navy closed their innings at 262, when they had one wicket to fall, but they were unable to dispose of their opponents in the time before them. The club got 150 for five wickets, Hancock being responsible for a well played 64 not out. For the Navy Jelf was the top scorer, having 59 to his credit, Dormer coming second with 47. They were the first couple at the wickets, and knocked up 106 between them before they were separated. Bedwell got 43 not out and Ellis compiled 33. Score:—

THE NAVY.	
apt. Dormer, R.N., "Pigmy," b Mast	47
Mr. Jelf, R.N., "Bonaventure," c Lethbridge, b Langhorne	59
Mr. Wall, R.N., "Powerful," b.w., b Hancock	0
Mr. Bedwell, R.N., "Immortalite," not out	43
Mr. Menn, R.N., "Bonaventure," b Hancock	3
Mr. Ellis, R.N., "Powerful," c Mast, b K. G. Campbell	33
Lieut. Dewar, R.N., "Arche," b Lethbridge	6
Mr. Gill, R.N., "Bonaventure," c Gerrard, b Mast	5
Lieut. Nugent, R.N., "Bonaventure," b Lethbridge	2
Capt. the Hon. G. A. Hardinge, R.N., "Rattler," c Ward, b Hancock	8
Lieut. Nicholas, R.N., "Powerful," not out	19
Extras	38
Total	262

* Innings declared closed.

BOWLING ANALYSIS.					
Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B.	Wickets.
Lethbridge	12	—	57	—	2
Burnie	5	—	35	—	—
Hancock	24	7	15	—	3
Langhorne	9	1	28	—	1
Mast	16	4	27	—	2
K. G. Campbell	4	—	12	—	1

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

Capt. Langhorne, R.A. l.b.w., b Gill	17
Capt. Dyson, A.P.D., b Gill	11
Lieut. K. G. Campbell, R.A., b Bedwell	8
H. Hancock, not out	64
Lieut. Lethbridge, K.O.R., b Bedwell	25
A. G. Ward, c Dewar, b Bedwell	21
Extras	4

Total 150

BOWLING ANALYSIS.					
Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B.	Wickets.
Gill	11	2	4	2	2
Bedwell	16	2	4	—	3
Wall	8	2	24	—	—
Jelf	3	—	22	—	—
Benn	2	—	15	—	—
Dewar	2	1	—	1	—

THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP AND SILVER MEDAL FOR NOVEMBER.

There was a numerous attendance of members on the links for the monthly cup competition, and the entries for the Pool established quite a record. The greens were in good order but very keen consequent on the prevailing dry weather and the returns fairly satisfactory. An unfortunate oversight on the part of Major Luke in handing in an unsigned card led to his disqualification; the question was carefully considered by the Committee who arrived at the conclusion that rule No. 4 for Medal play must be upheld. The last clause of this rule reads as follows:—"On completion of the course, the score of the player shall be signed by the person keeping the score and handed to the Secretary." Major Morris therefore takes the cup, and Capt. E. Burnie is entitled to the whole of the Pool:—

CUP.

Major Luke, R.M.L.I.	93	9	84
Major Morris, R.A.	99	13	86
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple	95	8	87
Dr. J. A. Lowson	87	+ 1	88
Capt. Montgomerie, R.N.	96	8	88
Mr. G. Stewart	91	3	88
Mr. W. Taylor	98	10	88
Capt. E. Burnie	110	21	89
Mr. W. J. Saunders	101	11	90
Mr. A. J. McClure	101	8	93
Dr. J. M. Atkinson	108	14	94

26 entries.

POOL.

Major Luke, R.M.L.I.	93	9	84
Capt. E. Burnie	105	21	84
Mr. J. F. A. Hastings	97	12	85
Mr. E. F. Mackay	97	11	86
Major Morris, R.A.	99	13	86
Mr. W. J. Saunders	98	11	87
Mr. G. Stewart	91	3	88
Mr. P. de C. Morris	96	7	89
Lt. Perry-Ayscough	103	13	90
Dr. J. M. Atkinson	108	14	94

35 entries.

THE HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

SHORT RANGE.—CUP AND SPOONS.

There was a very small attendance at the Range for this event on Saturday last, only eight members taking part. Mr. F. Beck, of the Naval Yard, scored his first win for the Cup with a score of 92 including 6 points handicap. The number of shots was altered from seven to ten at each range. Following are the scores:—

	200	300	H'cap.	Total
Mr. F. Beck *	43	43	6	92
Mr. A. Watson *	44	43	—	87
C. I. M. Wallace	43	42	2	87
Mr. J. Marshall	44	42	—	85
Sapper Clarke, R.E.	46	35	3	84
Mr. R. S. Head	38	36	10	84
Mr. Skelton	42	38	—	80

* Winners of Spoons.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

SECOND CLUB RACE: RESAILED.

The second Club races, not having been finished in time last week, were resailed, by the second class boats, on Saturday, the 26th, round Channel Rocks, Kowloon Rock, and Meyer's East buoy, starting at 2.30 p.m., and by the first class next day, round a markboat off Green Island, Cosmopolitan Dock buoy, and Channel Rocks, starting at 1.15 p.m. The distances were 8 and 14 miles respectively.

The wind on Saturday was fairly steady from the north and the boats in consequence finished early. The Dart led from start to finish and won with a couple of minutes to spare, but the Ladybird and Princess had a very tough struggle, getting in within two seconds, the She being only a few seconds beyond her time from both. Payne was late over the line and did not catch up with the others, and gave up after passing the Docks. The times were as follows:—

	Channel Rocks.	Finish.	Points
Dart	3 9 40	4 1 5	First 10
Ladybird	3 11 15	4 3 42	Second 4
Princess	3 10 20	4 3 44	Third 1
She	3 12 40	4 8 19	
Payne	3 17 40		gave up.

The A class on Sunday had a moderately strong north wind down to the markboat off Green Island, which was rounded by the Maid Marian about a minute in front of anything else, Phoebe, Bonito, Erica, Sybil, Active, Chanticleer, and Meteor following in a continuous string. It was a dead heat to the Cosmopolitan Dock buoy, and many changes took place on the way. The Phoebe for some time had a good lead, but on nearing the mark the wind was very changeable, and the Chanticleer was first round, Erica second, and Bonito third. In the reach to Kowloon Point Erica got into first place for a short time, but Chanticleer soon after passing the Police pier again assumed the lead and maintained it to the finish. The Bonito was second round the Channel Rocks, but was passed on the run down to the line by both Erica and Phoebe.

The line was crossed at the finish as follows:—

	H.	M.	S.
Chanticleer	4	27	52 first 10 points
Erica	4	42	10 second 4
Phoebe	4	44	20
Bonito	4	45	1
Maid Marian	4	45	1
Sybil	4	45	2
Meteor	4	45	20 third 1
Active	4	46	45

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD'S SHANGHAI SPEECH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—In your leading article of yesterday dealing with Lord Charles Beresford's speech you very rightly point out that he has gone very much astray in the opinions he has formed as to the position of affairs in the Far East and as to the course to be adopted by Britain in rectifying her past mistaken policy. Everyone must admire Lord Charles as a man, but our admiration for the man must not prevent us from forcibly opposing any incorrect theories he may put forward as to Britain's true policy in her dealings with the important "China Question," more especially so as he has avowedly come out with the intention of moulding public opinion at home.

As you clearly point out in your article, there is no reason why we should go to war with Russia over China, for we have much to gain by the Russian occupation of Manchuria, Mongolia, and parts of the Northern Province. We admittedly have no interest in the country other than that of trade and it is certain that when Russia takes over the territory in question the trade will quadruple and be freed from many present vexatious restrictions. It is impossible to account for the agitation set up for an attempt to oust Russia in that direction in any other way than to suppose that a few interested individuals, who have their own hatchets to grind, are working on the ignorance of the masses by raising this "Russian bogey." Unfortunately they have captured Lord Charles and trust to run him in their show.

As to the non-payment of Customs dues on the railway material landed at Newchwang, you have, also, pointed out that there is every reason for freeing railway material from taxation, for the cheaper the railways the better for trade. This aspect of the agitation points to the Customs as its source. We might take a leaf out of the Russian book in this matter, and, as a first step to relegating the Chinese Customs to their proper place, fire them out of this British colony and refuse to submit to their maintaining the festering city of Kowloon in the heart of the colony.

Should Russia, later, prove aggressive, we can soon coerce her into good behaviour when she has great material interests on the coasts of the Gulf of Pechili and hundreds of miles of coastline open to the attacks of our fleet. Russia in coming down to the sea-coast is giving hostages to fortune for her good behaviour. As to the Port Arthur and Talienwan stronghold, it could be, with an adequate force, easily cut off and starved into submission. In this I speak of what I personally know about, for I have been all over the stronghold. Already they find that want of water will prevent their maintaining a very large force there.

In Mid-China and South China it is a different matter, for there British interests demand that we should assert ourselves, and it is by coercing China, and not Russia, that we will protect and push our trade best. China's game is to invite Russia in, in the North, and France in the South, and then invite Britain to turn them out, and whilst they are busy tearing out another to pieces she, vainly, hopes to give the conqueror the *coup de grâce* and then revert to barbarism.

Lord Charles had better study the situation a little more deeply than he has so far, looking at the matter from every point of view, especially from the British merchant and taxpayers' aspect, and not solely through the distorting glasses graciously offered by those who have for so long, boaxed the British Government and public, or he will go home no better informed than the Saturday to Monday tripper he so facetiously alluded to.

TWENTY YEARS IN CHINA.

Hongkong, 29th November, 1898.

THE NEW SANITARY ORDINANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—The Hon. F. H. May when introducing the proposed "Insanitary Properties Ordinance, 1898" at the Council meeting on Tues-

day last said in the course of his remarks "that perhaps no more important measure has ever been brought before the Council than this Bill," and having had an opportunity of perusing the proposed Ordinance I am of opinion he was perfectly correct in making such a statement. In his subsequent remarks he shewed that he was thoroughly acquainted with the details of the Ordinance, in fact much more so than the official who draughted the Bill. This Ordinance, should it pass the Council in its present form, will be most drastic in its operations, and will in very many cases depreciate some of the most valuable properties in the colony, to an extent not realized by the promoters of the Ordinance or even by the majority of the owners of property in the colony; in fact very many houses and shops in the most important business localities of the city will be obliterated altogether, and this without compensation of any kind being made to the owners of the property affected.

It must be remembered that all the ground in the colony was originally sold by Government at public auction sales, and under no special conditions. The buildings subsequently erected were built in accordance with the laws and regulations for the time being, so that if any one is at fault for the present state of affairs, it is the Government.

The proposed alterations and amendments in this new Ordinance are exceedingly good in theory and would be very desirable if applied to houses erected on ground purchased from the Crown after the passing of the Ordinance; as it is, I have no hesitation in saying it is practically unworkable in some of its principal points. For instance (among many others) take the large block of houses on the south side of Jervois Street and between that street and Queen's Road (and this is about the most valuable property in the city, having been sold at the rate of about \$34.00 per square foot.) All these houses are comparatively shallow in depth; they are two stories in height on the Jervois Street side; on the top of these houses there are other two storey houses fronting Queen's Road, the shop fronts of which are over the back of the Jervois Street houses. Should this Ordinance be passed and "an open area in rear" be made to the Jervois Street houses (which houses at the present time cannot be used as "habitations" under bye-law No. 14 made under powers invested in the Board by Section 13 of Ordinance 15 of 1894, and dated 17th May, 1897) in accordance with the provisions of this new Ordinance, it means that all the houses on the Queen's Road side will be of no further use, either as shops or dwelling houses, owing to the before-mentioned area having to be carried up, clear and unobstructed, through what is now the front of the Queen's Road shops, thus reducing this property at least 50 per cent. in value. Then again, there are many small irregular shaped shops in this important district such for instance as say Nos. 28 to 38 Hillier Street, 6 to 12 Morrison Street, 1 to 5 Cleverly Street, and many more I could name, (i. e., shops with a good moderate frontage but no depth), in which, should areas of the size proposed be made at the back of these houses, there will be no houses left at all, being all or nearly all merged in the new areas.

During the last year, the Sanitary Board have considerably improved a very great number of insanitary houses in the city, especially "back to back" houses, in a very quiet and tactful manner, by getting owners to construct clear open areas at the back of their houses. Now, should this Ordinance be passed, they will have to considerably increase these areas (as pointed out by Mr. May), putting themselves to additional expense, and in many cases doing away with their kitchens altogether, for which they get no *quid pro quo*.

The curtailment of these and other houses is to be done by and at the cost of the house owner, without any compensation being paid him for the great depreciation of his property. On this matter, I beg to refer you to "The Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1894" at home, which Act is in operation throughout the whole of Great Britain and Ireland, and is the Act corresponding to this proposed and several other Ordinances in the colony, referring to insanitary properties. This home Act states how insanitary properties are to be dealt with. If property has to

be resumed it states the mode of acquiring such property, and how it is to be valued, "due regard being had to the nature and then conditions of the property, and the probable duration of the buildings in their existing state, and to the state of repair thereof without any additional allowance in respect of the compulsory purchase of an area or any part of an area"—section 21 (a) and section 41 (2). Again, section 36 (1) states "Where any owner has completed in respect of any dwelling-house any works required to be executed by an order of a local authority under this part of this Act, he may apply to the local authority for a charging order, and shall produce to the local authority the certificate of their surveyor or engineer that the works have been executed to his satisfaction, and also the accounts of and vouchers for the costs, charges, and expenses of the works, and the local authority, when satisfied that the owner has duly executed such works, and of the amount of such costs, charges, and expenses, and of the costs of obtaining the charging order, which have been properly incurred, shall make an order accordingly, charging on the dwelling-house an annuity to repay the amount." (2) The annuity charged shall be a sum of six pounds for every one hundred pounds of the said amount and so in proportion for any less sum, and shall commence from the date of the order, and be payable for a term of thirty years to the owner named in such order, his executors, administrators, or assigns."

Thus shewing that under this Act owners at home are entitled to compensation. Such being the case, I venture to ask, why should not the owners of property in Hongkong receive compensation in like manner? I am not personally interested in Chinese property as an owner, but it is a well known fact that the many irritating actions of the Sanitary Board (who have, I admit, done excellent work) is driving capital out of this colony to an extent not realized; for instance, the wealthy Societies like the Mission Estrangers and the Spanish Procuration have given up investing money in Hongkong, preferring to do so in Shanghai.

In the matter of the height of the partitions in cubicles—section 4 (d)—six feet is, in my opinion, much too low. The cubicles referred to are really small bedrooms or chambers, and should the respective partitions be only six feet high (as proposed in certain cases); there will be no privacy in them. Any one standing on a chair rail or small box, saying nothing about standing on the bed itself, will be able to look over into the adjoining cubicle and see everything going on therein. In my opinion there is not the slightest occasion to alter the existing regulations on this subject. At present partitions in cubicles cannot be of a greater height than eight feet, in addition to which, in every case there must be irrespective of the height of the room a clear space of four feet between the top of the partition and the underside of the joists of the room. The usual height of rooms, other than the ground floor (in which no cubicles or partitions are allowed except "shop divisions") is about 14 feet, so that there is now (or ought to be) a clear space of say six feet between the top of the partition and the underside of the floor joist of the room above. In the case of cubicles on the top floors, there being no ceilings in these rooms, the open space above the top of the partitions extends up to the underside of the roof tiles.

The proposed Ordinance in many other respects is open to improvement. In many sections the meaning is so vague and uncertain you do not begin to grasp it till you have repeatedly re-read them. There are several words whose meaning is not defined, which ought to be done. The want of such meanings or definitions has led to many arguments in the Courts and other places. Among the words I more specially refer to are such as—"Ping fung" (shop divisions), cubicle, cockpit, mezzanine floor, intermediate floor (it will be very useful and interesting to know the definition of these two words used so often in the Sanitary regulations, as a mezzanine floor is an intermediate floor and vice versa.)

Section 6 refers to the width of houses. It does not state how this width is to be measured. Is it to be the clear inside width of the house, or the distance from centre to centre of the adjoining walls?

Section 6 (b) is the correct and common sense way of measuring the depth of a house.

I respectfully suggest that all property owners in the colony should join in a combined petition to H.E. the Governor, stating their views on the subject of this proposed Ordinance, and also that His Excellency would be pleased to have it so altered and amended as to be brought more in line and in accordance with the English Acts referring to insanitary dwellings.

—Yours truly,

WM. DANBY.

Hongkong, 25th November, 1893.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD
AT SHANGHAI.

The annual dinner of the Shanghai Branch of the China Association took place at the Shanghai Club on the 19th November, Mr. C. J. Dudgeon, Chairman of the Association, presiding, with Lord Charles Beresford, O.B., R.N., the guest of the evening, on his right, and Sir N. J. Hannen, Chief Judge of the Supreme Court, on his left hand. Mr. E. F. Alford, Vice-Chairman of the Association, was in the vice-chair, with Mr. Byron Brennan, C.M.G., British Consul-General, on his right, and Captain Pottinger, R.A., on his left hand.

The proceedings were so protracted, Lord Charles Beresford speaking for an hour, to the great delight of his audience, who would willingly have heard him at still greater length, that we can only give this morning in full the speech made by his lordship. The first toast was "The Queen," proposed by the Chairman, and drunk with the greatest enthusiasm to the strains of "God save the Queen!" by the band. The second toast was "The Navy, Army, and Auxiliary Forces," proposed by the Vice-Chairman. Capt. Cochran, R.N., replied for the Navy, Capt. Pottinger, R.A., in an extremely well-conceived and well-delivered speech, for the army, and Major B. A. Clarke, S.V.O., for the auxiliary forces. Then came the health of the guest of the evening, Lord Charles Beresford, proposed by the Chairman in a very neat speech.

Lord Charles Beresford, who on rising was received with continued cheering, said—Mr. Dudgeon, and gentlemen of the China Association, I have to thank you, Sir, very warmly for the remarks that you made when proposing my health, and I have also to thank you, gentlemen, for the undoubtedly enthusiastic way in which you received them. I had not intended to make any remarks during my cruise round the British communities in this country; I was going to reserve those remarks for a proper report to the Associated Chambers of Commerce, also to the Cabinet, and even to a more important body—the electorate of our great country at home. (Hear, hear.) You spoke of hard work, Sir, but that was my business, and it is the business of every Britisher never to undertake to do a thing unless he does it with all his might and main and to the best of his ability. But I think that this is the first time that your great trading communities of this country have had a fair chance of placing your views, why you hold them, what you fear, and why you fear it in the future, before the great electorate of the people at home. (Hear, hear.) I am very well aware that your Consuls have sent many trade reports home; I am very well aware that this great and powerful association has sent very many resolutions home, but, so far as I can gather, these reports and resolutions have been relegated to some of those pigeon-holes where so many things are forgotten. (Hear, hear.) So far as my vision goes, I dare say you know what my reference was. It was to come out here to find out the ideas of the trading communities, how far they thought they could develop the British trade at present going on, and more than all, what security they can have for the future of their property, or indeed their lives, in this country. (Cheers.) I do not disguise from you or from myself that I find a unanimous opinion among these British communities—an opinion that is based on great anxiety, considerable nervousness as to the future, and considerable doubt as to whether any of them will invest additional money for further development of their trade on account of there being no security for the future. I have taken a very strong line on this question in England, both in the House and in the country.

Perhaps I exaggerate, but I do believe if our country is going to allow our people to be squeezed out of China, or if we continue our trade without further developing it, I do believe it will be the beginning of the end of our great empire. (Cheers.) Therefore I hold that the interests of the Far East are immeasurably superior to the interests of the Near East. But there is this point to be remembered, that the people at home are most crassly ignorant of the situation of things in China. I cannot quite blame them for that because I must plead guilty myself, to being one of those ignorant persons before I came out here and consulted those people who know the facts in this country. But I would respectfully submit to you that in many parts of our great empire circumstances occur, as in China, when people come to believe that the British empire is centred in that locality. Therefore I would say, with great respect, though we have felt very warmly towards the Cabinet and country, we must look at things broadly and as affecting the empire. The empire is a very large one, and difficulties have to be contended with in various countries. The Cabinet have considerable difficulties on the north-west frontier of India, the west coast of Africa, in Jamaica, in British Guiana, the Cape, and lately in the Soudan, as to which the military officer (Captain Pottinger) has made a most excellent speech. But let me point this out; would it have been quite wise of our Cabinet, at a moment when there might have been a doubt as to the ultimate success of that expedition—supposing some one had made a mistake, and what was a brilliant victory had been, I will not say a defeat, but a reverse, we should have had to send large reinforcements to make the thing secure—would it have been wise, I say, for the Cabinet to have embarked on some great enterprise in this country? I do not think it would have been wise, but this I will say, that all these questions have been more or less settled now, and so far as my endeavours go, if you will only support me, I will do all I can to make my countrymen see that they have got to do something in this country, and that we cannot go on with the policy of drift, as we have been doing. (Loud cheers.) There is another point I must mention relative to the case in Crete. I as a naval officer feel, and my brother naval officers will join with me in finding the most supreme satisfaction that a bold, frank and honest seaman has settled the difficulty which has puzzled the whole of Europe and all its Cabinets. I refer to Admiral Noë. (Cheers.) One word more on this question. With regard to your Ministers in China, I would respectfully submit to your Press here—I know it is very dangerous to attack the Press, because the Press always has the last word, but I am not, being an Irishman, very careful whom I attack if I get a thing in my head (laughter)—I would ask the Press in all fairness to remember that it is not quite the way to win an action to attack the agent. Attack the principal, not the agent; pitch into the Cabinet and Government, but, after all, we do not know what your agent's orders are, what the British Ministers orders are. He may be wanting, like a good horse to go straight over the country, take all the obstacles, and go a galloping pace, but happens to have a nervous rider on his back who funks the fences, jobs him in the mouth, and brings him down. (Laughter and cheers.) With regard to your Minister, you will agree with me here that he is the first Minister you have had that understands this point, that he is not only here, for diplomatic action, to write dispatches and protocols, but that he is here in the interest of trade and commerce as well. I venture to believe you have not had a Minister, and you will not have a Minister, who will be better than Sir Claude Macdonald in recognising that our interests in the East are those of trade and commerce. What I have endeavoured to do here is to find out from the communities wherever I have been what they want, why they want it; what they fear, why they fear it; and what they think the best methods for remedy for what may occur in the future. I have been very kindly treated by every body. I have got an enormous amount of information, some, perhaps, more or less contradictory (laughter), but, on the whole, I believe I have got a long way towards getting into my mind

what the people out here who know their business and trade think themselves, so that I can focus it and let the electorate know at home. With regard to your trade I believe I am right in saying at present it is very good. I have got no complaints to go home with. There may be some individual industries that will not agree with this, but the volume of trade as I understand it is not at all bad at present. I also believe that, so far as development goes, people are not inclined at all to do anything to develop their trade largely because they do not see what policy the Government is going to put forward at home, and, as far as security for trade and commerce goes, both from what I have been able to learn and also from what I can see for myself, I would say there is absolutely none in this country whatever. There are two things to my mind that loom very black in the near future for trade and commerce in China. One is the dominant and military position of Russia in the North, and the other is the absolutely effete condition of the Government of this country with regard to the four hundred million inhabitants which they can in no way control, while at any moment, if you put up stores or trade centres in the country, they may be destroyed or burnt, and the government of this country will have no control over those who do it. Those are two great points I see in the future, and if I am wrong perhaps someone will correct me. Now, with regard to Russia, I have said in the House of Commons, and I say here, I have no blame whatever to attach to Russia. I think that every Government of a country is bound to use every effort it can in the direction it thinks is for the interest of its commerce and people, but what I do say is this, and say strongly, that while other countries take these precautions and use this efforts, we must be very careful that they do nothing that will hurt our interests. I know that Russia has moved by leaps and bounds into positions that are 1,200 miles further than they were twelve months ago, and one of the curious features I have found here is that nobody is so astonished as the Russians to find themselves in the position they are in at present. (Hear, hear.) I do not think it wise to say what has been or what might have been; it is always better to say what is and see what we are to do in the future, but with regard to Russia, if I were a Russian I should use the very best efforts I could to place myself in Peking and then the Yangtze, provided I had no more opposition than they have found at present in getting to Newchwang and Port Arthur. What did I find at Newchwang? I was alarmed to find the British community there rather hapless. They were sitting down and saying: "Now what do you think we will get out of our property when Russia owns Manchuria? Do you think Russia will allow us to do this and that? Would you take home a resolution to say that we hope Russia will allow us this and that?" I remarked, we do not hold the British empire by such feminine policy as that. (Cheers.) I said: "Sit down and draft a strong resolution to the Government and tell them how things are, and if you want some definite and declared policy say what you want to be done in the future." That is what I told them. (Laughter, and hear, hear.) Again I say I do not blame Russia at all for what she is doing; I should certainly do the same if I were a Russian. (Laughter.) What I found was this, that the Russians are ignoring the Customs altogether; that is to say, steamers consigned to them go in and no Customs officials go on board, and they are ordered not to interfere with them in any way whatever, and the Russians have nothing to do with the Customs. Then I found there is no Consul there; the only person is a military officer, and of course, if referred to in cases of difficulty, he would say he was not a Consul. The whole country I went through was full of armed Cossacks. There may be necessity for some supervision over the Chinese to protect the railway and see that they do not run away with sleepers—certainly one would imagine rather inconvenient things—(laughter) but I heard no reasonable suggestion why the whole country should be full of armed Cossacks. At Port Arthur I hear there have been some seventy guns mounted, and there is feverish anxiety to get the railway finished. I asked one of the Russians I met—they were everywhere most kind and courteous to me—what was the mean-

ing of these preparations, and he said it was necessary to protect the trade. I have taken the trouble to look up their trade and I was astounded to find that in two years the Russian trade proper has been carried by three steamers, and on examination to find what these steamers carried I found that all three carried sea-weed. (Laughter.) These three steamers paid the duty, but there were thirteen others which came in with railway material which paid nothing whatever. I asked my Russian friend, who was a charming person, if it took all these armed Cossacks to protect three cargoes of sea-weed, what would be the armed force required to protect three millions of trade, as the value of our trade was last year in Newchwang. I need not tell you that I got no answer but a smile. (Laughter.) With regard to Newchwang, it is one of the most important places of British trade in this country, for two reasons, one is that it is the place where our trade is increasing in a larger degree than any other place out here, the other is that it is more possible for encroachment by Russia because it is nearer to Russia than any other place. I also want to point out that it is all-important to us, because it is our only open port in that district at all. Talienwan and Port Arthur are distinctly closed. It is all very well to say they are going to open them by-and-by, but I am talking of the present moment. By-and-by there may be some difficulty in opening the door of Talienwan, because it will be found that the hinges of the door are so rusty that the door will not come open at all. (Laughter, and hear, hear.) I found that in one day in Newchwang there were twenty steamers carrying British trade, and I took the trouble to count the junks on one side of the river and found there were 1,600 lying there. I do not object to Russia doing what she is doing if she thinks it is necessary for the benefit of her trade, but what I want to point out is that our trade in the future will depend upon the good will of Russia. That is a position to which we are not accustomed in this country (cheers) and without saying anything of a disrespectful nature to Russia, I do say most emphatically that it is the business of our Government to see that there is something more in the nature of security behind our trade than mere diplomatic utterances or assurances, or the mere good will that I have referred to. (Cheers.) Now, if I am not detaining you too long, (cries of "Go on") I should like to touch on another question which appears to me of great moment. Our policy as declared by the Cabinet, approved of by the country, and I am perfectly sure by everyone in this room, is what is called the "open door." (Hear, hear.) Ministers have raved with their hands over their heads, declaring that they will fight for the "open door." The Press and individuals have made use of more or less strong language in favour of the "open door," we have sent our fleets roving about in muddy waters for the sake of the "open door," but the extraordinary thing is that that door has been shut—absolutely shut. The idea that the door is kept open because there are no hostile tariffs or preferential rates is absolutely incorrect. The door can be firmly closed by the interference one country with the commercial enterprises of another. You can see what occurred in connection with the Newchwang railway. A party at home had a contract made to be signed by the Chinese government. One clause in that contract was that security for the money should cover the whole of the railway to Newchwang. The Russian government, in their wisdom, and with the idea of benefiting their country, strongly objected to that clause. We, on the part of the people proposing the contract, gave an intimation that we would not tolerate any interference with the railways. But the Russian government pressed their point and gained it and at this moment the security that was to have been allowed on that portion of the railway from Shanhaikuan to Newchwang does not exist. Now, therefore, I say the Cabinet have admitted the right of the Russian government to interfere in purely commercial enterprises. That is my contention, and if such things as this occurred in other open ports through the influence of England I think we should hear a very great deal more about it. I cannot conceive why these things go on in what is nominally a Chinese province and in a port that is open to the commerce of all the

world. I merely tell you what I have seen and I am sure you will bear me out that in my remarks I have said nothing discourteous, or nothing of a Jingoistic or spread-eagle character, but merely a statement of facts as they presented themselves to my point of view. (Hear, hear.) I think the time has arrived when you should press upon the leaders of opinion and the Government of the day that you are anxious that the position should be clearly defined, why a similar state of circumstances should not occur with regard to Peking, or right away down the Yangtze valley. Therefore a line should be drawn or some definite, clear, policy, which should be perfectly courteous in its tone, should be laid down as to what position we hold in China and with regard to what has occurred in the North. I always believe in public men, as far as possible, endeavouring to suit their language to what is generally used and exhibited in the House of Commons, that is, a line of argument, a line of courtesy, and a line opposed to strong spread-eagle talk, more particularly where mentioning foreign countries. With regard to this question of diplomatic success and assurances, why should we not believe that Russia will always do what she has done before? We can remember such events as occurred at Merv, Bokhara, Khiva, Batoum, and the Black Sea treaty, and things of that description, which were carried out after the assurances were given that they should not be done. Again I say Russia invariably wins when it comes to diplomatic action. There has been another question brought up, which is called the "sphere of influence" policy, and when I left home, to show you how ignorant we are at home, I was under the idea that we had some portion of China which was within our sphere of influence, and I believed that portion was called the Yangtze valley. I have been puzzled, however, to know what the Yangtze valley means, and nobody has been able to tell me. I asked the question on two occasions in the House of Commons, because I thought anyway we have got something we can fall back upon, we have got a sphere of influence. I wanted to know the latitude and longitude, but I got the usual official reply. Still I was convinced we had a sphere of influence until I came out here. When I examine the Yangtze valley on the chart I am very much puzzled, and it is most difficult to find out what it means. Would it include Shensi and Yunnan? I cannot find out what the Yangtze valley is, and when I come to the "sphere of influence" I am amazed to find that there is no such thing whatever. What has taken in the British public—it certainly took in your humble servant—is the dispatch which was put before the House of Commons, dated the 11th of February, 1898. This dispatch was from the Chinese Government in answer to one from Sir Claude Macdonald. It ran: "The British Minister would be glad to be in a position to communicate to their Majesty's Government a definite assurance that China would never alienate any territory in the provinces adjoining the Yangtze to any other Power." "To any other Power" would naturally lead one to suppose that meant to any other Power but Great Britain, and that we were the Power to have such sphere of influence, but when I questioned Sir Claude Macdonald I found that it is nothing of the sort and that we are included in the other Powers. So as matters are we have not got one single sod in China which belongs to us as a "sphere of influence," although the people at home think they have, barring the lease of Weihaiwei, and the addition to Hongkong at Mirs Bay. What is the position of other countries? I think we may say, without exaggeration, Russia has got a very extensive sphere of influence; I think we may say Germany has; but the Great British nation, with 68 per cent. of the whole trade in its hands, has no sphere of influence, and so far as the North is concerned there is no open door. Is that the position we are to remain in? I think not. (Loud cheers.) There is no doubt, to my mind, what Russia has in her mind, and I again say she is quite right if she can do it—she has in her mind that her sphere of influence will shortly extend to Peking. On the other hand the French sphere of influence comes in under a term which I could never understand called the hinterland, and the hinterland in the South happens to border on Hongkong. How that

will do I do not know—well I rather do know. (Laughter and cheers.) You must remember our neighbours in France are very much addicted to hinterland. (Laughter.) They took a very large amount of hinterland in Africa, and, as far as I can make out, the hinterland, as applied to Africa, certainly means the whole country except the port. (Laughter.) I referred just now to the position of the Chinese government, and, so far as we can see at present it is absolutely powerless to control the people. I am not one of those who think they know everything about China because I am here from Saturday to Monday (laughter), but I have formed an opinion of the people and it is based on what many of you have told me. I am assured that the word of the Chinese trader is as good as his bond, and from what I am told I believe there is a great deal of good in China. Then as to their being fighting men, I need only refer to Ikotanga, General Tso, Admiral Ting, and the Hongkong coolies who showed what they could do on the scaling ladder at Taku. You must not judge them by the Japanese war. Men have told me that they saw coolies being given guns and rifles of every continental pattern, with any kind of ammunition from muzzle-loading to pistol. What would you do under the circumstances? I myself should beat a masterly retreat to the rear. (Laughter.) I am as certain as I stand here if the men were only regularly paid, properly fed and clothed, they would follow Europeans just the same as we have seen in Egypt and elsewhere. (Applause.) As to the mandarins, I do not think any language could be too strong to apply to their system. But I want to know what I should do if I were ordered to govern fifty million people, keep them contented, and look after them in every way, being told that I am to get no salary, but that I have to pay an enormous sum for being appointed to office. How on earth can I do anything else but squeeze? But I believe if you could pay the mandarins proper salaries and let them occupy their places as long as they governed properly, with perhaps an odd threat that if they did not their heads would come off, I believe you would have a very good government in this country. My view of the future is that we should induce the Chinese Government to allow British officers to reorganise their army. I believe if their army were properly organised it would be an ample security for the prosperity of the country and a benefit to all nations. (Applause.) One more word as to the action of the Government at home. I can assure you that I do not believe such a thing as the Kowshing case could have happened to the American or German flag without that case being settled long ago. That case should have been settled a long time ago, and I shall make that case particularly my own when I get home, and try and see why it is not settled. Then there is a case of a pilot cutter that was run down by a steamer. The steamer was so palpably in the wrong that I cannot understand why the case was given against the cutter. That is a case which should be probed to the bottom, and I believe the steamer would have to pay. Then there is the case of the Bank of China and Japan in which certain shareholders, I believe they were Chinese, agreed not only to the articles of association but signed a separate agreement to be bound in any dispute by English law. I am afraid I am detaining you a long time. ("No, no.") I have continually been told that our policy has broken down. I, however, respectfully disagree with that. We have had no policy to break down. (Hear, hear.) What we want is a definite policy which we and other nations may understand. You must remember every diplomatic defeat we suffer affects our trade in this country more than it does in other countries because in the East we live undoubtedly by prestige and our prestige has suffered to an alarming extent if it has not gone altogether. I think you will agree with me that our efforts should be to restore that prestige. One more point. I hope I have not been misunderstood in anything I have said as thinking that we should mark any more of the chart red; but we can assist the Chinese to get their house into order, to have an army properly ed, policing the country, and protecting the trade of all nations. I believe that one of the first things our government should do is to

endeavour to get a commercial alliance between our country, Germany, America, and Japan. (Applause.) The foundation and object of such an alliance would be a fair field and no favour; would be the integrity of China as it is, and would be the open-door trade policy for all nations. With that, and an adequate army for police purposes, I believe this country would go on and prosper. Certainly, if we do not do that we shall be driven out of the country or we shall have to fight, in which case we shall fight at a disadvantage and then not be able to recover what we had lost. This is my firm conviction. I am obliged to you gentlemen, for having listened to my remarks. My concluding words are these, that I believe the time for action has come. There is no necessity for war, for peace is our greatest interest, but as sure as we go on drifting we shall come to war. If we do take this question in hand together with those nations I have mentioned I believe there will be no war, but peace and prosperity, and your trade in this country will be amply secured in the future. (Loud cheers, during which Lord Charles resumed his seat.)

Lord Charles's speech was constantly interrupted by loud and prolonged cheering, and the greatest enthusiasm was displayed when his lordship resumed his seat. The next toast was "Our Guests," proposed very disconsolately by Mr. G. J. Morrison, who coupled with it the name of Sir Nicholas J. Hannen, whose reply was neat and to the point and was heartily cheered. The last official toast was "The China Association," introduced by the Chairman in a really excellent speech, in the course of which he proposed the following forcible resolution, which was seconded by the Vice-Chairman, and carried by acclamation:—

"That this Branch of China Association views with the greatest concern the apparent apathy, indifference, and lack of knowledge displayed by our Home Government as to the true state of affairs in China, and as to the positions of advantage which are being secured by other Powers, to which no counterpoise has yet been obtained. That this Branch holds that any submission on the part of Great Britain to foreign dictation as to the terms of commercial contracts involves loss of prestige which is necessarily prejudicial to the security of British trade and commerce in China. Further that this Branch is convinced that the commercial and political situations cannot be separated, and that in order to prevent British Treaty rights being frittered away, it is necessary that Her Majesty's Government should define on clear and definite lines the policy of Great Britain in this country, and the limits beyond which territorial aggression shall not be permitted; finally that such policy must be supported by strong and decided action, and that endeavours should be made to secure the co-operation of those Great Powers which have similar aims and interests."

The last toast was the health of the Chairman, proposed by Mr. E. A. Probst and most enthusiastically honoured. It was now more than half-an-hour after midnight, and the large gathering melted rapidly away.—*N. C. Daily News.*

THE UNVEILING OF THE "ILLIS" MEMORIAL.

IMPOSING SCENES.

The unveiling of the remarkably telling monument to the memory of the gallant crew of H. I. G. M. S. *Illis* took place at Shanghai on the morning of the 21st November under circumstances of the most enthusiastic character, enthusiasm not confined to the German community but shared unanimously by the whole Settlement. The memorial, which has already been described in these columns, takes the form of a sundered mast supposedly given up by the sea. Cast in bronze it has been erected on the Bund foreshore opposite the house of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., and adds not a little to the generally imposing ensemble of the leading thoroughfare. The design is of the most appropriate kind and illustrates in a striking manner the terrible sadness attaching to the memory of those that go down to the sea in ships. Although very little time was afforded to the committee responsible for its erection the fact must not be disguised that they have carried out their work admirably, and without exception the ar-

rangements were perfect. The announcement that H.R.H. Prince Henry of Prussia would grace the proceedings by his presence rendered the function the more important and also the occasion for a great display of military and naval forces, one indeed that must have greatly impressed the natives as to the immediate resources of the Western powers. A large stand had been put up facing the monument on the Garden side which was crowded with ladies whilst others on the Bund pavement were also well filled with animated spectators. In the centre of the ground were drawn up the various officers, the Consular Body, the members of the Municipal Council, and leading citizens, whilst ranged behind these were sailors and marines from the different men-of-war and the Volunteers, all looking exceedingly smart and well drilled. About four hundred sailors and marines were landed by the *Deutschland* and the *Kaiserin Augusta*, a force supplemented by forty blue-jackets from H.M.S. *Phoenix* and *Algerine*, sixty from the Italian cruiser *Marco Polo*, sixty from the Austrian man-of-war *Krundsberg*, and small detachments from the Russian cruiser *Kreyser* and the U.S.S. *Menocacy*, under their various commanding officers. The scene presented was one that will not readily be forgotten, and had the proceedings been favoured with more propitious weather nothing would have been wanting to ensure the most complete success. As it was, a biting cold wind blew across the ground accompanied by intermittent showers of wintry rain rendering matters decidedly uncomfortable. It was nearly half-past eleven before the Prince appeared, an unavoidable delay having been occasioned in the landing of a party of German marines on account of the rough weather outside, the boats having some difficulty in getting off from the men-of-war at Woosung. On arriving he was received with cheers and a general salute by the assembled forces, afterwards inspecting the various lines and companies. He was accompanied by Dr. O. Stuebel, late Consul-General for Germany, his aide-de-camp, and numerous officers. The brief inspection over, Pastor Backmann mounted a small rostrum placed in front of the monument, and a short religious service was conducted, Prince Henry standing behind, a little ahead of the large company of civilians and officers assembled. Amongst those present were Admiral Lord Charles Beresford, C.B., Sir Nicholas J. Hannen (H.B.M.'s Chief Justice), His Honour Tsai (Shanghai Faotai), Mr. Byran Brennan, C.M.G. (H.B.M.'s Consul-General), Count Butler, Dr. Knappe (Consul-General for Germany), Dr. Zimmermann, Chevalier Ghisi (Consul-General for Italy), Mr. J. Goodnow (U.S. Consul-General), Mr. Van Walree (Consul-General for the Netherlands), Mr. J. Chapsal, Mr. F. S. A. Bourne, Mr. W. P. Ker, Mr. Odagiri (Consul-General for Japan), Mr. Hagberg (Acting Consul-General for Norway and Sweden), Mr. H. de Uriarte (Consul-General for Spain), Mr. J. M. T. Valdez (Consul-General for Portugal), Mr. N. Laptew (Acting Consul-General for Russia), Mr. J. Welch (Acting Chairman of the Municipal Council), Mr. E. A. Hewett, Mr. R. Inglis, Mr. J. Prentice, Mr. M. Rohde, Mr. F. Anderson, Mr. J. O. P. Bland, Mr. C. J. Dudgeon, and very many others, representing every element of local thought and feeling. At the conclusion of the reverend gentleman's address the band of the *Deutschland* played the *Flaggen-lied*, to the strains of which the men of the *Illis* met their doom. Subsequently Dr. Stuebel performed the ceremony of unveiling, and after an impassioned speech in which he dilated upon the spirit of patriotism manifested by the gallant crew, he addressed Mr. Welch on behalf of the community as follows:—"I have now pleasure in handing this memorial over to the custody and care of this foreign community. May it remain for ever a prominent and useful ornament to this Settlement, and may it stand to see its ever growing importance and prosperity." The monument was then exposed to the public gaze amidst loud cheers.

Mr. Welch, in responding said:—"Your Royal Highness, fellow German residents, ladies and gentlemen, I esteem this invitation which you have kindly extended to all nationalities not only as an honour, but as a token of the cordial sympathy which exists between the residents here, and which I sincerely hope will exist always. There is no greater proof of true

sympathy than when one is asked to join in the sorrows of others, as well as to take part in their rejoicings. It was with genuine sorrow that the whole community heard of the loss of the *Illis* and heard how the brave captain and crew died. There was that in the manner in which they met death which was worthy of the great nation to which they belonged. We Britishers, so to speak born to the sea, know how to appreciate this bravery, and in all the glorious annals of our own navy there is no brighter page or brighter record than the heroic fortitude of these brave men in the face of an inevitable and violent death. Most people in the presence of death are silent, but by a beautiful instinct of the German race which allows music to enter even on the most solemn occasions, we read of these men, after every effort had failed and every hope of life quenched, joining hands and singing to the praises of the great Creator before whom they were so shortly to appear. Their immortal memory will always be present to us when we look upon this beautiful memorial. On behalf of the community I accept the care of this memorial which you and your countrymen have erected, and you may depend that each succeeding Council year by year will tend it with solicitude and care. (Applause.)

His Royal Highness then stepped forward and in a few well-chosen sentences commented upon the conduct of their heroic countrymen in the hour of danger, which they were met that day to perpetuate.

The monument bears the following inscription on a medallion at the base:—"In memory of the heroic death of the crew of S. M. gunboat *Illis*, stranded in a typhoon on the coast of Shantung on the 25th of July, 1896." There are also inscribed on two other plates the names of the officers and men who lost their lives in the tragedy, whilst a fourth presents in bas-relief a reproduction of the unfortunate vessel under sail and steam.

The wreaths that were laid at the foot of the memorial, many of which were prepared by Messrs. Lawrie Smith & Co., were one and all magnificent specimens of floral decoration, most of them measuring from five feet in diameter. Of these, we may mention one laid by the Prince in the name of the officers of the cruising squadron. It was tastefully built up of white chrysanthemums and fern leaves with ivy entwining, the whole ribboned with the national colours. The German Embassy at Peking sent a wreath composed of geraniums, lilies, roses, chrysanthemums, and immortelles, all in white, bound with white satin terminating in a prettily arranged bow. Their nationals at Tokyo, Hongkong, Foochow, Hankow, Amoy, Kiaochau, and Tientsin also contributed to the floral display. The wreath given by Admiral Stokhuzen and his officers was a really beautiful design of immortelles with a rustic cross composed of white asters and maidenhair, fastened with a broad satin ribbon in red, white, and blue on which was inscribed an appropriate sentiment in gold. The Austrian navy also sent a token of admiration in the form of an oval wreath composed of laurel and palm leaves bound with a red and white satin ribbon, on which was the inscription "Die Kais. und Konigl. Kriegsmarine," on the one end, and on the other "Der helden muthigen besatzung S.M.S. *Illis*," in gold. A magnificent bouquet of white roses and maidenhair was appended. Of the local wreaths that of the German Consulate-General and the Municipal Council were singularly artistic. Neither have we forgotten the beautiful wreath presented by the German ladies, composed of white lilies and fern leaves, on the right hand a heart made of white chrysanthemums, and on the left a bouquet of white geraniums, and furnished with a white satin streamer with inscription in black. The German lassies came forward with a most original conception, an ear composed entirely of white immortelles, to the loom of which was attached a lovely wreath of violets and heliotrope. Space forbids us referring in detail to many other floral tributes; it will be sufficient to add that without exception they were conspicuous for their beauty and chaste design.

At the close of the ceremony the whole of the sailors and marines were drawn up on the Bund, which all, by the way, had been closed to vehicular traffic from ten o'clock in the morning, and the banks and leading merchants

suspended business whilst the function was proceeding. Headed by the band, the whole lot marched to the German Consulate, Prince Henry watching them pass. The route was lined with spectators who witnessed the movements with the liveliest interest. At twelve-thirty they dispersed. Half an hour later Dr. Stäbel entertained His Royal Highness and a large number of distinguished guests, whilst in the evening a grand banquet took place at the Club Concordia in honour of the day.—*N. C. Daily News.*

A FRUSTRATED REVOLUTIONARY PLOT AT FOOCHOW.

It seems that the people living inside the native city of Foochow narrowly escaped massacre and pillage recently. According to dispatches received from that city by the local mandarins a serious conspiracy of secret society men to seize the place, kill the mandarins and Manchus, and hoist the flag of rebellion, was lately discovered through the giving away of the plot by an outside recruit of the conspirators. The men concerned were mostly *Kolao Hui* men belonging to the regiments garrisoning the city, and recruits obtained from the local desperadoes and scum of neighbouring cities. Nearly 300 men were hidden in the Tartar city ready to rise on the Bannermen when the revolt took place, but as already stated above, through the treachery of one of the men, instead of being the ones to surprise the conspirators themselves were surprised by the mandarins, some thirty society men being arrested in the Tartar city alone. The remainder managed to escape, and it was impossible to arrest the society men in the garrison for fear of forcing the situation. It appears that the only men the Foochow mandarins have any confidence in at present are the Viceroy's own bodyguards and the local militia—all the rest being suspected of *Kolao Hui* proclivities.—*N. C. Daily News.*

WEIHAIWEI.

14th November.

For ten or more days past there has been quite an assemblage of British warships at this place. Some twelve or fourteen ships have been here at once, made up of battleships, cruisers, gunboats, and destroyers. All have been on the *qui vive*, prepared for anything that might happen. The war fever ran high among the men, who were spoiling for a fight, especially with Russia. In ships and seamen England and Russia seem to be well-matched in these waters, with the balance in favour of the great Northern Power. But with the French squadron on that side it would have been fortunate if the English ships had not had a hard struggle. Of course it is possible that the all-round superiority of English officers and men would have served, but to a non-expert this does not appear at all to have been certain. Britishers under the present circumstances, may well be glad that the matter did not issue in actual war. Officially there has been no word from home that would warrant the break-up of the squadron. So that the state of watchful preparedness is still maintained.

On the 9th inst. some two thousand blue-jackets and marines landed on the mainland and engaged in a sham fight. It seems that five hundred marines had to select and defend some site against the attack of the blue-jackets. The fight, I understand, was inconclusive, but inclined towards a favourable issue for the defenders.

Last week the Austrian cruiser *Fruntsberg* came into the harbour and spent a day here.

The Warden of Liukungtao has directed on a course which will not increase his popularity among the natives. It appears that a native firm, impressed with the improvements that were being effected, wrote offering to contribute thirty dollars per month, as was understood, toward a general improvement fund. A meeting of leading men was called by the Warden which resulted in a tax being imposed on the shopkeepers, several of the larger firms having to pay as much as twenty-five dollars a month. It is said that in some cases the tax is higher than the rent. If the object is to drive firms of good standing from the place it will probably be successful; for the coming Chinese New

Year will likely see not a few of the shops close their doors not to re-open them. If, on the other hand, the authorities desire to have reliable Chinese firms in their midst, it will, I think, be necessary to impose a tax of more modest dimensions. It is supposed that the offer above referred to was a Chinese way of throwing a sprat to catch a mackerel. The firm expected to reap its reward in increased patronage from the powers that be. Some say the offer was not intended at all as a monthly affair, but just once for all. But it is quite likely that many of them have not yet learnt the difference between English and Chinese officialdom, and this and other taxes that have been imposed are looked upon as so many "squeezes" to go into the private pockets of many of the officials. For it is common talk that cases of squeezing have been indulged in by native employes.

The first step has been taken to locate the general English Settlement for Weihaiwei. I hear that a Chefoo firm has bought up a hundred *mow* of land on the mainland near Light-house Point on the southern side of the Bay, about a mile and a-half from the native city. Report has it that a company is to be formed to erect and work a first-class hotel on this spot. It is easily accessible from Liukungtao and seems to be a good selection—except for N.E. winds in the winter. Such a place would be a convenience and should in time be made to pay. There are other enquiries for land in that neighbourhood which of course has greatly run up prices.—*N. C. Daily News* correspondent.

ANTI-CHRISTIAN RIOT AT KIUKIANG.

An embryo riot against Christians at Kiukiang was fortunately stopped by the local authorities on the night of the 16th instant. It appeared that, as a native preacher was expounding the Scriptures to a large audience in one of the chapels in the native city, a literary licentiate also entered the chapel apparently with the special object of arguing with the preacher and so raising a riot against the Christians in the place. Just as the preacher pronounced the name of Jesus in his discourse, the licentiate in question rose up, interrupting him and exclaiming, "Jesus! Jesus! Have you ever seen Him that you speak so confidently of Him?" The preacher turning to the speaker retorted: "You are a follower of Confucius. Have you seen him?" Ignoring the question the licentiate continued, "Not having seen Jesus and talking like this is so much humbug!" As usual on such occasions a wordy contest followed, ending in the licentiate and his supporters making a rush upon the preacher with the object of dragging him into the streets, while bricks and tiles began to be hurled into the chapel by a fresh mob from the streets, who increased the uproar by crying "Beat the Christians!" "Down with them!" Luckily the police *weiyuan* was just then making his evening round at the head of his soldiers, and he succeeded after some difficulty in arresting the licentiate, who now awaits trial in the Kiukiang magistrate's yamen, while the mob, seeing the police determined in their efforts in restoring order, dispersed as quickly as they had assembled.—*N. C. Daily News.*

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 27th November.

On Sunday last the election of six members of the Leal Senado took place. The contest excited little public interest. The following were elected:—General (retired) Antonio J. Garcia, Senhores Albino A. Pacheco (lawyer), Antonio A. da Cruz, José Victorino, Antonio A. de Mello, and Fermão M. Mendonça. It remains to be seen what the new Corporation will do. For my part I do not expect they will prove much of an improvement on the late corporation, but I hope I may be mistaken.

The Colonial Secretary, Senhor Mario B. de Lima, Acting Governor, has ordered an official reception for the Count of Turin, who is expected to arrive on a visit to our little town on Friday. Senhor Lima is having Government House prepared for the accommodation of the distinguished guest, and an official dinner is to be given in his honour on Sunday.

To-day the *Heungshan* brought from your port the runaway Sergeant Fernando José, whose rendition was applied for by the Macao Government. He was taken from the steamer to Monte Fort.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

An expectant Toatal surnamed Chan, a foreign adviser whose name is given in Chinese as Pakshi, of what nationality is not mentioned, and ten American engineers left Hankow on the 25th November for Canton in connection with the Hankow-Canton railway. The Magistrate of Namhoi has received instructions from the Viceroy to make ready for their reception. It is also said that H.E. Chang Pat-shi, formerly Consul-General at Singapore and Director-General of the Hankow-Canton Railway, who went to Singapore some time ago to get subscriptions for shares in the enterprise, will return to Canton shortly. The people of Singapore do not take much interest in the railway, only a small sum of about twenty thousand dollars having been raised from them.

Hardly a day passes without fires occurring in Canton or in the neighbourhood. On the 23rd ultimo a fire broke out in a brothel in Yingtsuisha, Fatshan, when over thirty houses were utterly destroyed and three persons, one male and two females, were burnt to death. On the 28th ultimo another great fire broke out in a druggist's shop in Sapsatpo, Canton, when nineteen houses were burnt to the ground.

Two Koreans went to ask the compassion of the Namhoi Magistrate, having been robbed when on their way from Kwangai to Canton and had no means to provide for themselves. The Namhoi Magistrate, taking pity on them, gave each of them sixty-two dollars out of his own pocket.

It is said that a good many of the soldiers who were sent to Sunon district to suppress the alleged rebellion there suffered from sickness and over twenty of them have succumbed; the climate not agreeing with them. They have, however all been shipped back to Canton lately.

HONGKONG.

There were 2,263 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 196 were Europeans.

The Indo-China steamer *Yuensang* on her last trip down to Manila picked up twenty-two Chinese whose junk had been wrecked.

Among the passengers who arrived from San Francisco in the *Doric* on 27th November were the Count of Turin and the Count of Carpenetto.

On Saturday afternoon on the Happy Valley the Hongkong Football Club defeated H Company of the King's Own Regiment by five goals to nil.

The appointments of Mr. I. M. Xavier to be Land Surveyor and Mr. T. G. Hughes to be Assistant Engineer in the Public Works Department are notified in the *Gazette*.

The return of communicable diseases, notified as occurring last week show one case of scarlet fever on the *Powerful* and one fatal case of enteric fever, the body being found floating in the harbour.

In the Rugby football match on 28th November the Hongkong Football Club defeated the Garrison by nine points to nil. For the winning team one try each was obtained by Edmondston, Hancock, and Loureiro.

Both the local Fire Insurance Companies were interested in the great fire that occurred at Shanghai on Saturday night, the Hongkong Fire to the extent of Tls. 16,500 and the China Fire Tls. 20,000.

The German cruiser *Kaiserin Augusta* entered the harbour on 27th Nov. She left for the north again next day with Admiral Diederich and will return when Prince Henry comes down about December 8th.

At the regular meeting of Zetland Lodge, No. 525, held on 1st Dec., Bro. G. Piercy was elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. Wor. Bro. G. A. Caldwell was re-elected to the office of Treasurer.

On 29th Nov. Messrs. Hughes and Hough offered for sale by auction the steam launch *Morning Star*. The bidding commenced at \$2,000 and rose to \$5,200, when the launch was knocked down to Mr. Chun Wai Hing, coal merchant.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that H.E. the Governor has been pleased to appoint Mr. A. H. Lee-Norman to be a Supernumerary Lieutenant in the Field Battery of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps with effect from the 25th November; also that Major Somerville, the King's Own, has been appointed Private Secretary to His Excellency, and Lieutenant Lee-Norman Aide-de-Camp.

In connection with the recent accident to the German flagship *Kaiser*, the German Consulate here has communicated to us as a preliminary warning for mariners that there is a rock under water at the entrance of the Samsah Bay, between Crag Island and the mainland, where the British Admiralty's chart No. 1988 indicates a depth of 10 fathoms. Further details will be published hereafter.

Commander Hastings, at the Magistracy on Saturday, reconsidered his decision committing a godown keeper, another Chinaman and the master of a passage boat, for the extensive robbery of cotton yarn from the premises of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company on 20th October. The prisoners stole cotton to the value of \$450. Sergeant Gourlay, however, effected the recovery of the cotton. The prisoners were each sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

A boating accident occurred in the harbour on Saturday. Two officers from H.M.S. *Powerful* were attempting to go round the island—a distance of 30 miles—in an outrigger. The trip was almost completed, they having arrived opposite the Kennedytown Hospital, when they were caught in a squall. Their boat was upset but fortunately the tide, which was strong, drifted the boat and its occupants, who hung on to the keel, towards the pier belonging to the New York Standard Oil Company, against which the boat was dashed and completely wrecked.

On 1st December on the Happy Valley the Hongkong Football Club played H.M.S. *Grafton* before a large number of spectators. The match proved an excellent one, both teams playing up to their best form. The first goal was scored by Noble after several of the Club forwards had sent in some good but fruitless shots. In the second half the *Grafton* played up harder but when getting dangerous on one occasion F. H. Kew made an excellent save. A capital goal was scored by C. T. Kew from about twenty-five yards from the goal-line and shortly afterwards Noble dribbled the ball into the net. The match thus ended in a victory for the Club by 3 goals to nil.

Under the heading of "an eruption of domes," the Hongkong correspondent of the *N.C. Daily News* writes:—"The City of Victoria is undergoing an eruption of small domes and spirelets. The new Club inaugurated the disease by a breaking out of three small domes of the pepper-box type, not ineffective, but why three? A vast and truly imposing building designed for mercantile offices has now arisen on the new Praya Reclamation which is not only adorned with a small dome at each corner, but boasts a quite imposing one in the centre of its Praya elevation. Another building, likewise intended for offices, has risen next to, and greatly overtops Butterfield and Swire's elegant premises, and from each corner of this lofty structure horn-like excrescences are commencing to obtrude. The foundations of another huge block, also on the Reclamation, have been laid, and this building will also rejoice in sundry turrets or domes. Even in purely domestic architecture the fashion is beginning to intrude, for a villa with a small spire is now showing up from the McDonnell Road.

On Saturday evening, in the Gymnasium, Murray Barracks, the entertainment given the previous Thursday evening by the King's Own Regimental Amateur Dramatic Club was repeated. There was again a large attendance. The first part of the programme consisted of a performance by the "Orange and Blue Minstrels," who sang some capital songs and retailed jokes and conundrums innumerable. Bandsman Carter, Colour-Sergeant Lelliott, Corporal O'Donohue, Bandsman J. Upton, H. Gray, Bandsman E. Upton, and E. Broadhurst were the soloists. Lieut. Galloway made an excellent interlocutor. Colour-Sergeant Lelliott was Tambo, Bandsman J. Upton Bones, E. Broadhurst

Gene, and Bandsman E. Upton Pete. The second part opened with a variety turn by Colour-Sergeant Lelliott, followed by a song and dance by J. Sullivan, both being encored, and then came an amusing little sketch entitled "Penhook in Paris," in which the characters were taken as follow:—Mr. Fluff (a visitor to the Paris Exhibition), J. Arnold; Mrs. Florentina Fluff (Ditto his wife), Lt. Galloway; Frank Darlington (a tourist and Mrs. Fluff's brother), E. Aldous; Jack Lightfoot (a naval officer), Bandsman Carter; Jeremiah Tinfoil Blonde (an old rich gent), C. S. Lelliott; Clementina Blonde (his daughter, in love with Jack Lightfoot), Bandsman J. Upton; Jemmy Joss (waiter in the gardens), E. Broadhurst; Neapolitan Girl (fortune-teller), F. Ayres; Gendarme, E. Upton.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

CA TON, 24th November.—Macao Congous.—Transactions during the past month aggregate 6,000 boxes at Tls. 131-6 per picul. Many of these are Fine Teas, for which prices show an advance of Tls. 2-3 per picul, but the quality is good. Scented Capers.—Settlements for the past month are 6,000 boxes, at Tls. 15-21 per picul, making the total to date 181,000 boxes; to this must be added further 6,000 boxes for settlements short reported, which will make a grand total of 191,000 boxes. It is very unlikely that there will be any more buying and the season will close with an export of 4 millions of lbs. The stock of leaf in native hands is estimated at 8,000 boxes, which will be carried over to next year.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

	1898-99	1897-98
lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai...	12,465,290	13,864,361
Foochow	11,773,276	11,980,514
Amoy	587,797	660,744
Canton	4,143,760	5,455,102
	29,268,103	31,947,811

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1898-99	1897-98
lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai	11,643,181	17,492,496
Amoy	10,192,254	11,017,106
Foochow	6,360,976	7,126,204
	28,196,411	35,635,806

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO OCEANIA

	1898-99	1897-98
lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow...	22,676,902	19,462,293

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1898-99	1897-98
lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	23,039,781	21,475,418
Kobe	12,160,816	24,475,448
	35,200,597	38,797,650

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 26th November.—(From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular).—The Home markets are firmer and Blue Elephants are quoted from London at 107½, and Gold Killings from Lyons at Fcs. 28.50. Raw Silk.—The market is a little weaker, but settlements are only on a small scale; Green Kahings and Chincum are responsible for some 200 bales. In Yellow Silk about 100 bales have changed hands. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, November 19th to 25th are: 677 bales White, 131 bales Yellow, and 177 bales Wild Silks. Re-Reels and Filatures.—Some further business has taken place for America in Hand Filatures, about 100 bales in all; the market is steady with holders willing to meet current prices. Nothing doing in Steam Filatures. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: 1,646 bales to the Continent, 106 bales to America, and 61 bales to England. Wild Silk.—Settlements amount to 100 bales Raw and Filatures. Waste Silk.—The principal business has been for the Continent one buyer taking 1000 piculs of Long Shantung B. Among the settlements reported are:—

pols.	at Tls.
200 Long Shantung B. (whole bales)	21 (early in the week).
1,000 do.	19½ (to-day).
100 Curles No. 2 and 3	24 and 24 respectively.
50 Honan Waste No. 1 and 1½	6 7/8.
100 Szechuen Frisonnee, common (whole bales) ..	9

Prices calculated by Maerten's Tables at 11 per cent. Exchange 2/0; Freight 11s. 7.80 per bale.

	Tls.	Stg.
	per pol.	per lb.
Tsatlees—Hemtah Stork Chayling	431½	10 3/4
Blue Phoenix Lanfung	430	10 3/4
Chay Kiling	431½	10 3/4
Stork Chayling	431½	10 3/4
Hangchow Tsatlees.—Pagoda Tinghow	425	10 1/4
Taysnam.—White Kahing Lily Flower 3	425	10 1/4
Green Kahing Y V. C. Chayling 1	445	10 3/4
" " " 2	425	10 1/4
" " " Gold Goose 1	457½	10 10
" " " 2	442½	10 6
" " " M	450	10 8
Chincum.—Fighting Cock Chop 1	447½	10 7 1/2
" " " 2	437½	10 4 1/2
Yellow Silk.—Meeyang	385	8 0 1/2
Fooyang	330	7 1/2
Wongchow	235	5 9
Hand Filature.—		
Flying Gold Dragon Croissee 1, 2 & 3, avg. 585 ..	139	
Wild Silk.—Tussah Filatures,		
Spinning Girl, 8, cocoons	287½	6 1/4
Tussah Raw	150 a 160	3 9/4 a 4 0 1/4

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1898-99	1897-98
bales.	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	35,322	32,633
Canton	27,143	15,255
Yokohama	11,010	11,355
	73,469	59,243

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1898-99	1897-98
bales.	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	3,203	6,471
Canton	8,303	7,296
Yokohama	10,511	18,254
	22,150	32,134

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 2nd December.—The market is firm. Quotations for Formosa are \$40.50 to \$51.00 Sales, 250 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 2nd December.—The tone of the market has improved and prices are rising. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.75 to 7.80	per picul.
do. " " White ..	7.35 to 7.40	" "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	5.0 to 5.10	" "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.9 to 4.95	" "
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.60 to 7.65	" "
do. " 1, White...	7.25 to 7.30	" "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	4.80 to 4.85	" "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.70 to 4.75	" "
Foochow Sugar Candy	11.00 to 11.05	" "
Shekloong	10.00 to 10.05	" "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per American ship, *Mary L. Cushing*, sailed on the 4th Nov. From Hongkong for New York:—19,781 rolls matting, 3,832 packages firecrackers, 1,605 packages tea, 1,215 cases palm leaf fans, 50—bales cassia lignis, 250 cases preserves, 143 packages rattans, and 40 cases Chinaware.

Per Brit. steamer *John Sanderson*, sailed on the 17th November. For New York:—6,126 rolls matting, 1,317 packages cassia, 2,539 packages merchandise, 5 cases ginger, 17 cases Chinaware, 23 cases human hair, 10 cases lith. paper, and 2 cases ylang ylang.

Per steamer *Pyrrhus*, sailed on the 19th November. For Liverpool:—4,400 bales hemp, 1 case cigars, and 3 packages sundries. For Glasgow:—2 cases curios.

Per steamer *Sarpedon*, sailed on the 20th Nov. For London:—4,777 boxes tea, 58 cases cigars, 4 cases blackwoodware, 3 cases China ink, 80 cases essential oil, 9 cases effects, 1 case silk, 7 cases cowtail hair, 700 cases, and 225 cases preserves, 295 bags gum, 3 bales hemp, 50 bales canes, 289 rolls matting, 13 packages shells, and 30 packages sundries. For London and/or Manchester:—360 bales waste silk. For London and/or Rotterdam:—150 cases ginger, and 1 package sundries. For Manchester:—25 bales waste silk. For Liverpool:—1 bale hemp. For Glasgow:—200 cases ginger. For Ant-

werp:—100 bales feathers. For Hamburg:—184 bales canes. For Odessa:—114 bales canes, 11 bales bamboo, 15 bales rattanore, and 2 packages sundries. For New York:—40 cases essential oil.

Per Amer. ship, *Benjamin F. Packard*, sailed on the 23rd November. From Hongkong for New York:—22,557 rolls matting, 10,063 packages firecrackers, 1,736 packages tea, 646 cases merchandise, 590 cases fans, 350 cases cassia lignia, 230 bales rattanore, 150 cases joss sticks, 82 cases blackwoodware, 58 cases straw goods, 20 cases staranised oil, and 13 cases Chinaware.

Per German steamer *Hansa*, sailed on the 26th November. For New York:—8,343 rolls matting, 2,184 bales hemp, 335 packages merchandise, 20 boxes paper, 17 cases human hair, 20 cases cassia oil, and 20 cases aniseed oil.

Per P & O. steamer *Bengal*, sailed on the 26th November. For Manchester:—2 cases cigars from Manila, 225 bales waste silk. For London:—8 cases cigars from Manila, 165 bales raw silk, 25 cases silk piece goods, 10 boxes bristles, 2 bales hemp, 1 case curios, and 9 rolls matting. For Gibraltar:—4 cases cigars from Manila and 6 cases curios. For Sanit Etienne:—10 bales raw silk. For Milan:—10 bales raw silk. For France:—311 bales raw silk, 400 bales waste silk, and 10 cases silk piece goods.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 2nd December.—Bengal.—There was a further rise in rates early in the interval, but towards the close a lull set in and prices have declined, latest figures being \$800 for New Patna and \$805 for New Benares.

Malwa.—The demand has been meagre, and prices have further given way. Current quotations are as under:—

New \$730 with all'nce of 1/2 to 24 catty
Old (2 1/3 yrs.) \$750 " " 0 to 1 "
" (4/5 ") \$800 " " 1 to 1 "
" (6/7 ") \$830 " " 0 to 2 "

Persian.—There has been very little doing in this drug during the past week. Prices have receded, closing at \$550 to \$650 for Oil, and at \$640 to \$700 for Paper wrapped, according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna 1,592 chests
New Benares 321 "
Old Benares 20 "
Malwa 430 "
Persian 520 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1898.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Nov. 26	800	—	802 1/2	—	730	—
Nov. 27	800	—	805	—	730	—
Nov. 23	800	—	805	—	730	—
Nov. 29	797 1/2	—	805	—	730	—
Nov. 30	802 1/2	—	805	—	730	—
Dec. 1	802 1/2	—	807 1/2	—	730	—
Dec. 2	800	—	805	—	730	—

RICE.

HONGKONG, 2nd December.—The market is active and prices are still advancing. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary \$2.50 to 2.55
" Round, good quality 2.65 to 2.70
" Long 2.85 to 2.90
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 1 2.70 to 2.75
" Garden, " No. 1 2.95 to 3.00
" White 3.65 to 3.70
" Fine Cargo 3.90 to 3.95

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 2nd December.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*.—50 bales No. 8 at \$73, 75 bales No. 10 at \$71 to \$84, 250 bales No. 12 at \$79 to \$82, 25 bales No. 16 at \$82 to \$90, 1,350 bales No. 20 at \$9 to \$9.16. *Grey Shirtings*.—600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. B Joss No. 1 at \$2.95, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. No. 2 at \$2.02, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Dragon at \$3.85, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Red 7 Boys at \$2.55, 500 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue 2 Fishes at \$2.62, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Ticket at \$3.28, 500 pieces 10 lbs. 138 at \$3.72, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. 3 Dogs at \$3, 1,200 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Joss No. 1 at \$2.95, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs.

No. 2 at \$2.92, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Dragon at \$3.85, 1,200 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Seal at \$2.87, 500 pieces 7 lbs. Blue Lion at \$1.90, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Fish at \$2.50, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Joss, No. 1 at \$71.50, 1,500 pieces 11 lbs. Red Flower at \$3.15, 1,200 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Fish at \$2.20, 2,500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Dragon at \$3.82, 2,000 pieces 10 lbs. C.V.N. Sycee at \$3.87, 700 pieces 7 lbs. Large Eagle at \$1.92, 1,800 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Red 7 Boys at \$2.5, 1,000 pieces 10 lbs. Red 5 men at \$3.30, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Seal at \$2.87, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Red Seal at \$2.55, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Stag Seal at \$3.85, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Flower Vase at \$3.45, 250 pieces 10 lbs. 14 at \$3.12, 1,500 pieces Weighting Man at \$3.70, 250 pieces 10 lbs. Red 5 men at \$3.30, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 5 men at \$3.80, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. B Fish at \$2.5, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. B Joss No. 1 at \$2.92, 250 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Dragon at \$3.8, 1,250 pieces 10 lbs. C.W.W. Sycee at \$3.87, *White Shirtings* 250 pieces SQ at \$4.35, 100 pieces 300 at \$3.55, 500 pieces Flower Chop at \$4.85, 500 pieces Blue Dragon at \$4.95, 1,500 pieces at \$3.52, 1,000 pieces X 6 at \$3.80, 1,000 pieces Blue Dragon at \$4.95, 750 pieces No. 4,000 at \$3.40, 1,000 pieces Blue Lion at \$5.25, 1,000 pieces Dragon at \$2.75, 300 pieces Gold Tiger at \$6, 100 pieces Blue Lion at \$5.85, 500 pieces SQ at \$4.35, 500 pieces SS at \$4.55, 500 pieces Flower Chop at \$4.8, 500 pieces Gold Elephant at \$3.92, 500 pieces Gold Goose at \$4.50, 500 pieces D 70 at \$3.82, 400 pieces Blue Lion at \$5.85, 300 pieces Gold Tiger at \$6, 500 pieces Gold Goose at \$4.35, 500 pieces Flower Chop at \$4.85, 500 pieces Blue Dragon at \$5, 500 pieces Gold Dragon at \$5.25, 500 pieces 300 at \$3.75, 500 pieces 60 at \$4.51, 500 pieces 70 at \$3.65, 500 pieces Gold Elephant at \$3.8. *T.Cloths*.—750 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. Gold Dragon at \$2.32, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. Red Stag at \$2.31, 600 pieces 8 lbs. VV at \$1.95, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. BB at \$2.32, 750 pieces 8 lbs. Mex. Shoe Maker at \$2.12, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. Gold Dragon at \$2.32, 1,500 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. Red Stag at \$2.32, 600 pieces 8 lbs. Mex. Red Stag at \$2.72, 600 pieces 8 lbs. VV at \$2.92, 600 pieces 8 lbs. XX at \$2.97, 600 pieces 8 lbs. XX at \$2.97, 1,500 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. Red Stag at \$2.32, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. Sil. Phasant at \$1.82, 370 pieces 7 lbs. Gold Dragon at \$2.30, 3,750 pieces 8 lbs. Gold Dragon at \$1.72, 600 pieces 8 lbs. Mex. VV at \$2.92, 600 pieces 8 lbs. XX at \$2.97, 600 pieces 8 lbs. XM at \$2.35, 375 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. S. Lion No. 2 at \$1.77, 375 pieces 7 lbs. No. 1 at \$1.81, 600 pieces 8 lbs. XM at \$2.35, 600 pieces 8 lbs. Red Stag at \$2.72, 600 pieces 8 lbs. Mex. CC at \$3. Drills.—700 pieces 7 lbs. Large Eagle at \$1.92, 150 pieces 16 lbs. Large Eagle at \$5.32, 225 pieces 14 lbs. Cat Head Chop at \$1.52, 750 pieces 14 lbs. Pencil at \$3.90, 750 pieces 14 lbs. Buffalo at \$3.70, 750 pieces 16 lbs. Large Eagle at \$5.32, 150 pieces 14 lbs. Buffalo at \$3.75. *White Irishes*.—250 pieces Folds No. 1 at \$4.85, 20 pieces No. 2 at \$4.50.

SHANGHAI, 26th November.—(From Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report) Piece Goods.—The promises that were entertained a few weeks since for a brisk wind up of the season appear doomed to disappointment, for although we are within a week of the probable date of departure of the last steamer to Lien sin our market during the interval has been more dead than alive. And there is little chance of anything more of importance being done either as all shipping arrangements must have been made by now. The reasons given are the general want of confidence and scarcity of money, which cannot be wondered at when the present state of the government is considered. Trade is much hampered, too, by the internal troubles and disasters that have been coming thick on the country during the past few months, making a very gloomy outlook for the annual settlement. "The Yellow River," "China's sorrow," has once more broken its bounds and devastated vast tracts of country. The recent calamitous fire in Hankow has been quickly followed by a serious landslide on the bank of the river Han, causing great loss of life and property, all of which helps to depress trade. The failures of a Native Bank in Hankow and an old established Hong at this port, involving several of the smaller Banking houses, have added to the stringency in our money market during the interval, and have given rise to an uneasy feeling that this is only the commencement of the troubles that may be expected before the end of the year. Clearances have been very poor, especially of English goods; it is anticipated, however, that by the end of next month stocks of American makes in first hands will be next to nothing.

There are rumours that the steamer *Kenmore*, that was reported wrecked near Suez last month, has been floated, and is proceeding on her voyage, but the truth of this is very much doubted. As a good deal of her cargo has been duplicated it will cause great inconvenience if it should turn out to be correct. There are no special features to note about the spot sales this week, the demand seems to be simply from hand to month, and the enquiry for goods to arrive is falling off. The market for Yarns has continued dull and dropping, with native holders of all Spinning pressing sales. The Local Mills have sold nothing this week.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 2nd December.—The market has ruled quieter and rates somewhat easier during the week under review, with no important business to report.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have found buyers in small lots at 232 1/2 and 231 per cent. premium for cash, but forward sellers at equivalent rates have been unable to find buyers. Nationals have changed hands at \$17.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have been negotiated at \$62 and \$62 1/2, Unions at \$32 1/2, Cantons at \$50, and Straits at \$7. The Northern Insurances remain neglected and without local business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have receded to \$10 without business, whilst Chinas have found further buyers at \$89, \$87, and \$88.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have changed hands at \$26 1/2 and \$27, closing weak with sellers at the latter rate. Inds have been negotiated at \$59 cash and at \$59 1/2 for settlements, closing quieter at \$58, Douglasses at \$53 1/2, and a small lot of China Manilas at \$30. The last named could be placed at \$81 to \$82 if any shares were forthcoming. China Mutuals are still enquired for at quotations without leading to business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have ruled firm at \$169 to \$170, closing quiet at \$170. Luzons have been in pretty general demand and have changed hands at the advanced rates of \$51 and \$52 and later at \$64 and \$65.

MINING.—Punjoms after further small sales at \$6.25 have improved to \$6 1/2. Raubs have found buyers at \$37 1/2 and \$37, closing steady at \$37 1/2. Jebeus and Olivers have been negotiated at quotations in small unimportant lots. Queens have found buyers at 70 cents, and Great Easterns at \$7.80, \$7.85, and \$7.90.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have ruled firm and in favour; sales have been effected at 263, 265, 267, and 27 per cent. prem., market closing steady at the last rate. On time sales are reported at 279, 280, and 281 per cent. prem. for March. Kowloon Wharves continue strong with sales at \$71 1/2 and further buyers; \$72 would doubtless be paid if shares were forthcoming. Wanchais remain unchanged and without business. Amoy Docks have been enquired for and changed hands at \$15, closing with sellers.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been rather quieter with sales at \$76, after small ones at \$77. Sellers at the former rate now rule the market. Hotels have been on offer during the week at \$68 cash without inducing any but a small business. On time, however, a fair number of shares are reported to have changed hands at \$69 1/2 for December. Market closes with sellers at \$68. West Points continue at \$20 with sellers and no sales. Humphreys have found further buyers at \$8.75, closing with sellers at that rate. Sales of Kowloon Lands are reported at \$18.

COTTONS.—Continue quiet and without local business. Quotations, except Hongkongs, are from Shanghai circulars. The last call of \$30 per share on Hongkongs has been made, payable on 31st December.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Star Ferries have changed hands at \$9 1/2 and \$9.9, Watsons at \$12 1/2, Green Islands at \$28 and \$16 (old and new), and Fenwicks at \$29 1/2. Electricos have ruled quieter with sales and sellers at \$11 1/2. China Providents have found small buyers at \$10 1/2. Ices, Tramways, and Campbell and Moore are still enquired for without leading to business.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai...	\$125	232 1/2 prem=
China & Japan, prf.	£5	nominal
Do. ordinary...	£4	£1, buyers
Do. deferred...	£1	£5.5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares...	£8	\$17, sales
Founders Shares...	£3	\$17
Bell's Asbestos E. A. ...	£1	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$8
China Prov. L. & M. ...	\$10	\$10.25, ale. & sel.
China Sugar	\$100	\$170, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo...	Tls. 100	Tls. 76
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 8
Lau Kung Mow...	Tls. 100	Tls. 84
Soyche	Tls. 500	Tls. 4.0
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 55
Hongkong	£70	£49, sellers
Dairy Farm Co.	\$	\$
Fenwick & Co., Geo. ...	\$25	\$9, sales
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$24
Do. New Issue	\$	\$6, sellers
H. & China Bakery ...	\$50	\$33
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	£10	\$126
Hongkong Electric ...	\$10	\$11.25, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$17
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$17, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$116
H. & K. Wharf & G. ...	\$50	\$17, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$17, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$270 p. ct. prem.=
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$150
China Fire	\$20	\$8, sales
China Traders'	\$25	\$6.24, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$14, buyers
North-China	\$25	Tls. 180
Straits	\$20	\$7, sales & sellers
Union	\$50	\$23.24, sales & sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$129, sellers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment...	\$50	\$76, sellers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$75, sales & sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$18
West Point Building	\$40	\$20, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$64
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fce. 250	\$101, sales
Great E. & C. Donison	\$	\$7.90
Jelebu	\$	\$1.80, sales
Queens' Mines Ltd.	25c.	10 ct.
Olive's Mines, A. ...	\$5	\$7
Do. B. ...	\$2	\$1.20, sellers
Punjom	\$7	\$4.75, buyers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.50
Raubs	14s. 10d.	\$37, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$64	\$15, sellers
Steamship Cor.—		
China and Manila...	\$50	\$82, buyers
China Mutual Ord.	£10	£9.1's, buyers
Do. Preference	£10	£10s, buyers
Do. ...	£5	£1, buyers
Douglas S. S. Co. ...	£5	\$3, sellers
H. Canton and M. ...	\$15	\$7, sales & sellers
Indo-China S. N. ...	£10	\$8, buyers
Star Ferry	\$	\$90, sales
Tebrau Planting Co. ...	\$	\$, sellers
Do.	\$	\$3, sellers
United Asbestos	\$2	\$1.40, buyers
Do.	\$0	\$10, nomin. l
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37	\$41
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$12, ex div.

J. V. Y. VERNON, broker

SHA GHAT, 23th November.—From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report.—Although more business was done in Bank shares this week, the market was rather dull. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. Shares have been in strong demand, both locally and for Hongkong, and cash business was done at 225 and 226 per cent. premium, with a sale for March delivery at 240 per cent. There are cash buyers at 236 per cent. but holders ask much higher rates. The London rate is £50. Marine Insurance.—No business was done locally. Fire Insurance.—The losses in the fires on the 26th, of Tls. 10,000 and Tls. 20,000 respectively by the Hongkong and China Companies may weaken both stocks. Shipping.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat shares changed hands in Hongkong at \$27 to \$26.50, and are wanted. Indo-China S. N. shares were sold at \$59. S. N. shares.—No local business. Perak Sugar Cultivation shares are offering at Tls. 19.50 ex div. Docks, Wharves and Godowns. S. C. Farnham & Co. shares are wanted, to a limited extent, at Tls. 110. Shanghai Dock shares are wanted and can be placed at Tls. 86. Hongkong and Kowloon Dock shares have declined to 258 per cent. premium.

Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf shares changed hands at Tls. 122. Land.—Shanghai Land Investment shares are offering at Tls. 90. Industrial.—Major Brothers shares were placed at Tls. 31.50. In Cotton Mill shares a fair business was done. Ewos were sold at Tls. 76. International at Tls. 81 cash, and Tls. 81 to Tls. 84 for March, and Yeh Loong at Tls. 55. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Waterworks shares were sold at Tls. 240, and are offering. A number of Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco shares changed hands at Tls. 61 cash and Tls. 72 to Tls. 72.50 for the 31st March. Shanghai-Lingkat Tobacco shares were sold at Tls. 115. Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares were sold at Tls. 57.50. Shares in J. Llewellyn & Co. changed hands at \$39, and in the Central Stores at \$10. Loans.—Chinese E Loan Bonds are wanted. Shanghai Municipal 6 per cent. Debentures of 1891 were placed at Tls. 101, and Shanghai & Hongkong Wharf 6 per cent. Debentures at par.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 2nd December.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.46
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.50
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	1.98 1/2
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	47 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	48 1/2
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	145 1/2
Bank, on demand	146
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	145 1/2
Bank, on demand	146
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	72 1/2
Private, 30 days' sight	72 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	4 1/2 % pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	2 1/2 % pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	1 % pm.
SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate	10.13
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per taal	53.25

TONNAGE.

HO KONG, 2nd December.—Memo. of settlements since 26th November:—
Kensington—British ship, 1,645 tons, hence to London, private terms.
Taifu—German steamer, 1,063 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 14 1/2 and 19 1/2 cents per picul.
Kashing—British steamer, 1,58 tons, Saigon to Sourabaya, 21 cents per picul.
Ningpo—British steamer, 1,24 tons, Iloilo to one port Japan, 30 cents; if two ports 3 1/2 cents per picul.
Tordenskjold—Norwegian steamer, 904 tons, Hongay to Hongkong, \$1.45 per ton.
Deuteros—German steamer, 1,401 tons, Hongay to Hongkong, \$1.45 per ton.
Ebani—British steamer, 1,093 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.25 Canton, \$1.45 per ton.
Toya Maru—Japanese steamer, 1,548 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.25 per ton.
Ningchow—British steamer, 1,735 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.5 per ton.
Lombard—British steamer, 1,658 tons Moji to Singapore, \$3.10 per ton.
Quarta—German steamer, 1,141 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$7,000 per month.
China—German steamer, 1,271 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$6.50 per month.
Elee—German steamer, 903 tons, monthly, 7/3 months, \$9.00 per month.
Sulberg—German steamer, 782 tons, monthly, 1/1/1 month, \$1,000 per month.
SHANGHAI, 28th November (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report).—Since the date of our last issue, the 14th inst., our freight market homewards has not undergone any noteworthy change, exporters' attention having been directed more especially to sail tonnage for New York, for which direction a considerable quantity of tea, strawbraid, etc. is now ready for shipment. There is no improvement to note in steamer business to either New York or the Continent and with the prospective closing, at a very early date, of the northern ports, and the tea season drawing to a close, steamers have not very great pro-

spects of support to look forward to in the coming few months. Rates of freight are:—London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s.; Northern Continental ports, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s.; New York via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Baltic via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 52s. 6d.; waste silk 55s.; tea 57s. 6d.; Konigsberg via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Manchester, by Conference Lines, general cargo 52s. 6d.; waste silk 55s.; tea 57s. 6d.; Liverpool, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Hamburg, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s. Above rates are subject to a deferred rebate, as per Conference circular. Havre, by Conference Lines, tallow 3 is. net, general cargo 36s. net, waste silk 38s. 6d. net, tea 40s. 6d. net; Genoa, by Conference Lines, tallow 3 is. net, general cargo 36s. net, waste silk 38s. 6d. net, tea 40s. 6d. net; Marseilles, by Conference Lines, tallow 3 is. net, general cargo 36s. net, waste silk 38s. 6d. net, tea 40s. 6d. net. 35s. per ton of 2 1/2 cwt. net for above three ports. New York, by sail, 18s. New York via Pacific, 1 1/2 gold cents per lb. tea, 6 cents per lb. silk, \$10 per ton strawbraid. New York via Suez, 27s. 6d. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 27s. 6d. for tea. Boston, 35s. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 4 s. for tea. Philadelphia, 35s. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 40s. for tea. Coast rates.—Moji to Shanghai \$1.50 per ton coal; Nagasaki to Shanghai \$1.50 per ton coal; Newchwang to Kobe closed; Newchwang to Swatow closed; Newchwang to Canton closed; Wuhu to Canton 15 cands.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Java (str.), Ceylon (tr.), Orestes (tr.), Kawachi Maru (str.), Sanuki Maru (str.).
For BREMEN.—Bayern (str.).
For MARSEILLE.—Oceanien (str.), Howachi Maru (str.), Sannmi Maru (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—Doric (str.), City of Rio de Janeiro (str.), Nippon Maru (str.).
For VANCOUVER.—Empress of Japan (str.).
For VICTORIA, B. C.—Victoria (str.), Tartar (str.).
For TACOMA.—Victoria (str.).
For NEW YORK.—Iolani (str.), Edsvold (str.), Reuce (tr.), Glenartney (str.), Drumeltan, Hansa (str.).
For HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Heidelberg (str.), Konigsberg (str.), Bamberg (str.), Sibiria (str.).
For AUSTRALIA.—Airlie (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

November—
ARRIVALS.
25, Tokio Maru, Jap. str., from Melbourne.
26, Moeve, German gunboat, from Manila.
26, Sumatra, British str., from London.
26, Kuivaberg, German str., from Manila.
26, Hong Leong, British str., from Singapore.
26, Polyphemus, British str., from Liverpool.
26, Whampoa, British str., from Shanghai.
26, Redpole, British gunboat, from Nagasaki.
26, Tordenskjold, Norw. str., from Canton.
27, Kweiyang, British str., from Canton.
27, Amara, British str., from Pasuruan.
27, Doric, British str., from San Francisco.
27, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
27, Haling, French str., from Haiphong.
27, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., from Yama.
27, Keongwai, British str., from Bangkok.
27, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
27, Tacoma, British str., from Tacoma.
27, Thales, British str., from Coast Ports.
27, Triumph, German str., from Bakhoi.
27, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
27, Wongkoi, British str., from Bangkok.
27, Isaac Reed, Amr. ship, from Honolulu.
27, Narcissus, British str., from Weihaiwei.
27, Kaiserin Augusta, Ger. str., from Shanghai.
27, Pronto, German str., from Tourn.
28, Machew, British str., from Bangkok.
28, Myrmidon, British str., from Shanghai.
28, Sabina Rickmers, Brit. str., from Foochow.
28, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
28, Ningpo, British str., from Chinkiang.
28, Sishan, British str., from Saigon.
29, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
29, Yiksang, British str., from Cebu.
29, Taiyuan, British str., from Sydney.
29, Ingraban, German str., from Chifoo.
29, Deuteros, German str., from Hongay.
29, Nanyang, German str., from Taiwanfoo.
29, Letimbro, Italian str., from Singapore.
29, Tamsui, British str., from Shanghai.

30, Oslo, Norwegian str., from Manila.
 30, Howard D. Troop, Brit. sh., from N. York.
 30, Savoia, German str., from Shanghai.
 30, Lokeang, British str., from Chefoo.
 30, Mongkut, British str., from Newchwang.
 30, Hart, British gunboat, from Amoy.
 30, Fame, torp.-bt. destroyer, from Weihaiwei.
 30, Whiting, torpedo-boat destroyer, from Weihaiwei.

30, Wingsang, British str., from Canton.
 30, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.

December—

1, Independent, German str., from Chefoo.
 1, Phra Nang, British str., from Bangkok.
 1, Dencaillon, British str., from Sandakan.
 1, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 1, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
 1, Teenkai, British str., from Singapore.
 1, Concord, American gunboat, from Manila.
 1, Java, British str., from Yokohama.
 1, Kutsang, British str., from Calcutta.
 1, Pechili, British str., from Swatow.
 1, Inaba Maru, Japanese str., from Singapore.
 2, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
 2, Oceanien, French str., from Shanghai.
 2, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
 2, Athenian, British str., from Moji.
 2, Choyang, British str., from Shanghai.
 2, Diomed, British str., from Live pool.
 2, Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
 2, Empress of Japan, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
 2, Handy, H.M. torpedo-boat destroyer, from Amoy.

2, Cormoran, German cruiser, from a cruise.

November— DEPARTURES.

26, Airlie, British str., for Kobe.
 26, D. Hans Jurg Kear, Norw. str., for Canton.
 26, Bengal, British str., for Europe, &c.
 26, Coromandel, British str., for Shanghai.
 26, Astrid, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
 26, Kasuga Maru, Jap. str., for Australia.
 26, Kiangnan, Chinese str., for Chefoo.
 26, Chingping, Chinese str., for Chefoo.
 26, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
 26, Tailee, German str., for Amoy.
 26, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 26, Whampoa, British str., for Canton.
 27, Kweiyang, British str., for Tientsin.
 27, Clio, British str., for Tamsui.
 27, Michael Jensen, German str., for Pakhoi.
 27, Chowfa, British str., for Bangkok.
 27, Hansa, German str., for Singapore.
 27, Hoihow, French str., for Hoihow.
 27, Cormoran, German cr., for a cruise.
 28, Redpole, British gunboat, for a cruise.
 28, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Swatow.
 28, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
 28, Hong Leong, British str., for Amoy.
 28, Taifu, German str., for Swatow.
 28, Tordenkjold, Norw. str., for Hongay.
 28, Tokio Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.
 28, Ningpo, British str., for Canton.
 28, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
 29, Chowtai, British str., for Bangkok.
 29, Myrmidon, British str., for London.
 29, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 29, Kwanon Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
 29, Polyphenus, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Bonaventure, British cruiser for Manila.
 29, Sumatra, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Dewawongse, British str., for Bangkok.
 29, Tetartos, German str., for Nagasaki.
 29, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., for Bombay.
 29, Hating, French str., for Haiphong.
 29, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
 29, Ingraban, German str., for Canton.
 30, China, Amr. str., for San Francisco.
 30, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 30, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
 30, Chinkiang, British str., for Tamsui.
 30, Aktiv, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 30, Sullberg, German str., for Takao.
 30, Hailan, French str., for Pakhoi.
 30, Aurora, Siamese bark, for Bangkok.
 30, Kaiserin Augusta, German cr., for Amoy.
 30, Nivisberg, German str., for Manila.
 30, Dante, German str., for Moji.

December—

1, Nanyang, German str., for Swatow.
 1, Tamsui, British str., for Canton.
 1, ROHILLA, British str., for Yokohama.
 1, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 1, Mongkut, British str., for Canton.
 1, Yamaguchi Maru, Jap. str., for Seattle.
 1, Loksang, British str., for Canton.
 1, Independent, German str., for Canton.
 1, Sabine Rickmers, British str., for Swatow.

1, Deuteros, German str., for Hongay.
 1, Wingsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 2, Isaac Reed, Amr. ship, for Singapore.
 2, Pronto, German str., for Touron.
 2, Keongwai, British str., for Bangkok.
 2, Concord, American gunboat, for Canton.
 2, Savoia, German str., for Hamburg.
 2, Sabine Rickmers, British str., for Swatow.
 2, Lightning, British str., for Calcutta.
 2, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Bengal*, from Shanghai for Hongkong. Messrs. Maclean, L. Vanderstegen C. E. Richardson, W. B. Meikle, Mrs. Choy and infant, Mrs. Sieber, Surg.-Capt. Evatt, Mrs. Perpetuo, Mr. A. Murray, Mr. and Mrs. Senna, Messrs. W. Gordon and S. Lewis; for Singapore, Mr. W. S. Livingstone; for Brindisi, Capt. Castendyck, Mr. J. E. Macdonald, Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Sheridan; for Marseilles, Mr. H. Jaegar, and Mrs. Harold; for London, Mrs. Bradgate and infant, Miss Mitchell, Miss Gould, and Mr. Tribilcock.

Per *Coromandel*, from Hongkong from London. Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G., Lady Blake, Miss Blake, Staff Paymaster E. G. Edwards, Miss Amy Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Badely, Rev. and Mrs. G. Walsh, Miss M. Ewing, Miss J. Ewing, Miss L. Usher, Miss Ramsay, Messrs. Sutherland, Moncrieff, Ferguson, Paton, Rev. S. J. Nightingale, Mr. and Mrs. Stewart and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hutchison, Mr. Dick; from Colombo, Capt. A. M. S. Carter; from Penang, Mr. G. McBain; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. R. De la Poer, Mr. and Mrs. H. Vos, Dr. E. H. Horsey, Messrs. F. N. Le Pan, V. R. Habback, and Han Hie Foon. For Shanghai from London, Messrs. H. Meaze, H. E. Sandys, Rev. J. C. Goodchild, Messrs. E. Hamilton, J. Cronin, P. Reilly, P. Thornton, P. O'Donnell, D. McCloskey, Miss A. A. D. Shepley; from Marseilles, Mr. Schonsee, Rev. W. H. Elwin. For Yokohama from London, Mr. F. Lee Norman; from Marseilles, Mrs. W. Churchill; from Bombay, Capt. L. Impey.

Per *Sumatra*, from Hongkong, from London, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Robertson, Capt and Mrs. T. J. Marker, infant and maid, Lt. R. J. B. Kay, R.N., Lt. R. W. Johnson, R.N., Miss E. Filmer, Messrs. F. G. Gibbs, H. C. Carmichael, G. F. Longhurst, H. C. Allen, G. F. Cholmley, F. S. D. Esdaile, R. H. Clarke Hall, R. I. Germain, J. B. C. Mollee, L. H. Shore, H. O. Nash, C. C. Heathcote, F. O. B. Wilson, W. D. Phipps, J. G. Hodgson, H. Foden, G. H. Seymour, H. H. Bills, C. J. West, T. Vincent, H. Brand, and H. H. Brand; for Shanghai, Mrs. Boyce Keep, Mrs. Munro, Miss Munro, Mrs. W. G. Moore, Miss Jameson and Mr. Hagarum.

Per *Tacoma*, from Tacoma. Messrs. Perrett, Rialley, Green, C. Smith, P. Smith, Alwen, and Prawteh.

Per *Doric*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Rennie, Mr. G. E. Wolff, Mrs. E. B. Rogers, Mrs. A. M. Jossins, Miss M. Potter, Mrs. F. W. Haynes, Mr. L. H. Knapp, Mrs. C. E. Nosler, Mrs. W. W. Reinhart, Jr., Messrs. J. Orange, G. H. Dahn, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lee, Count of Turin, Count of Carpenetto, Mr. W. Earhart, Mrs. E. Beiber, Messrs. J. M. Ellsworth, C. A. Hutchinson, P. Neidrich, A. Trier, Mr. and Mrs. Hong Quan and 4 children, Messrs. Tsing C. Hin and S. Tsukoguchi, and Mrs. J. Patterson.

Per *Loongmoon*, from Shanghai, Messrs. von Düring, Wardrop, Jibisch, and Davies.

Per *Haimun*, from Tamsui, &c., Miss Lafferty, Capt. Hansen, Messrs. Peterson and Osterby.

Per *Wingsang*, from Shanghai, &c., Mr. Hurley, Mrs. Benjamin and Misses Benjamin (2), Mr. Wm. Ashmore, and Mrs. Josemore.

Per *Taiquan*, from Sydney, Mrs. Nelson, Professor Haddon, Dr. Sigelmann, Mr. Ray, and Mr. and Mrs. Clark.

Per *Kutsang*, from Calcutta, &c., Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, Miss Rood, Capt. Wotton.

Per *Java*, from Foochow for Hongkong, Mr. J. H. Pullinger, R.N. From Kobe for Singapore, Mrs. Skinner. From Yokohama for London, Lieut. G. H. S. Potter, R.N., Messrs. Walter King and Wm. Whithead, Mr. and Mrs. M. Esland Yuill. From Shanghai for London, Mr. Wm. White and Mr. Yun Kin Yik.

DEPARTED.

Per *Kasuga Maru*, for Australia, Mr. and Mrs. A. MacMillan, Messrs. W. H. Skinner, T. J. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Little, Miss Howe, and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Parry.

Per *Bingo Maru*, for Singapore, &c., Major and Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. H. Brooks, Miss Paterson, Messrs. J. W. Noble, J. M. MacDonald, Jas. B. Stiven, Mr. and Mrs. Gomez and 2 children, Capt. J. Hatta, Messrs. N. Yatsushiro and M. Kobayashi.

Per *Coromandel*, for Shanghai from Hongkong—Messrs. E. Osborne, H. J. Owen, E. H. St. Crix, Murphie, Geo. McBain, F. H. Lohan, and Dr. Horsey. From London—Messrs. H. Menze, H. E. Sandys, E. Hamilton, J. Cronin, P. Reilly, P. Thornton, P. O'Donnell, D. McCloskey, and Miss A. A. D. Shepley. From Marseilles—Mr. Schonsee, and Rev. W. H. Elwin.

Per *Bengal*, from Hongkong for Singapore. Messrs. Justice Cooper, C. J. Demeé, H. W. Vaughan, and J. W. Slater; for Bombay, Messrs. C. B. Movrawala and M. Byramji; for Brindisi, Mr. B. W. Clarke, Miss C. L. Clarke, Mrs. and Miss Bauer; for Marseilles, Messrs. O. Koenig, Pedro Heiwo, Martain Rubio, Julian Dorado, Julian Cruz, Jose Serrano, Ramon Cabridas, Gregorio Mariscal, Remigio Munoz, Faliz Cenwado, Placido Roman, Bonifacio Villora, Cripriano Antolin, Saturno Martin, Guillermo Trojo, Julian Trojo, Tuan Mata, Hermogenes Cela, Leoncio Cordolies, Emilio Giral, Tuan Perdiguero, Grulo Garcia, Julian Gutierrez, Andres Prieto Pablo Pardo, Matno Atienza, Ismael Rubio, Diego Nieto, Mariano Mareos, Marieno Calvo, and Antonis Romano; for London, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Ellis, Miss Ellis, Miss Frank, Messrs. R. W. Almond and E. A. Stanton. From Yokohama for Bombay, Lieut. W. E. Young; for Brindisi, Mr. and Mrs. Shortridge; for Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Schaefer; for London, Mr. J. A. Stewart Jones. From Kobe for Bombay, Colonel W. E. Ramsden. From Nagasaki for Singapore, Miss W. Araki. From Shanghai for Singapore, Mr. W. S. Livingstone; for Colombo, Miss Sherman; for Brindisi, Capt. Castendyck; for Marseilles, Mr. H. Jaegar, and Mrs. Harold; for London, Mr. W. J. Bradgate and child, Miss Mitchell, Miss M. Gould, and Mr. E. Tribilcock.

Per *Sumatra*, from London for Shanghai, Midshipmen V. F. Gibbs, R.N., H. C. Carmichael, R.N., and G. F. Longhurst, R.N., Naval Cadets H. C. Allen, R.N., G. F. Cholmley, R.N., and F. S. D. Esdaile, R.N., Hall R. H. Clarke, R.N., R. L. Jermain, R.N., J. B. Le Motte, R.N., L. H. Shore, R.N., H. O. Nash, R.N., C. C. Heathcote, R.N., F. G. B. Wilson, R.N., and W. D. Phipps, R.N., Lieut. R. W. Johnson, R.N., Mrs. Boyce Keep, Mrs. Munro, Miss Munro, Mrs. Moore, Miss Jameson, and Mr. Hagarum.

Per *China*, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Downs, Mr. H. P. Wadman, Capt. W. Gordon, Messrs. H. F. Bush and Tuthill, Mrs. J. Lewis, Messrs. Loo Wan Poo, T. Iha Keyama, Loo Hon Chee, Mrs. B. Clarke, Mr. J. Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. D. Schuster, Messrs. W. G. Gorham and Wm. Vida; for Nagasaki, Mr. L. Potratzky; for Kobe, Messrs. J. W. Kinghorn and F. da Rosa; for Yokohama, Mr. E. W. Dunn; Lieut. J. F. Chambers, Col. F. W. Amb, Lieut. J. M. Conval, Lieut. H. D. Lackore, Messrs. C. Nakamura and H. Gubson; for Honolulu, Mr. Yuen Chong, Mrs. Lee Shee, Miss Chan Choy Wa, Miss Chan Tai Mow, Mr. Chan Chin, Miss Tsun Moy, Mrs. Ng She, Miss Yen Wa, Mrs. Lum She and infant, Mrs. Chang She, Messrs. Kam Hong Chan and Hua Sune Hok; for San Francisco, Lieut. J. E. Lombard, Mr. L. J. G. Kulhwein, Capt. Carter, Capt. E. F. X. M. Seguin, Lieut. O. L. M. Seguin, Messrs. S. H. Jenkins, J. Flanders, I. B. Maynard, A. E. Cohen, G. Sovenleeski, W. G. Barlow, A. Rotler, J. Morell, L. E. Snow, Thos. Alfred, James Sutton, Loy Chong, J. E. Jewell, N. Reese, F. V. McMurray, L. Struvella, J. Allor, W. J. Hannah, Chan Moy, J. S. Holsworth, and Mrs. Low Shee.

Per *Rohilla*, for Yokohama from London, Mr. L. Norman. From Marseilles, Mrs. A. Churchill. From Bombay, Capt. L. Impey.

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